## Galois orbits and equidistribution of special subvarieties : towards the André-Oort conjecture. \*

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#### Abstract

In this paper we develop a strategy and some technical tools for proving the André-Oort conjecture. We give lower bounds for the degrees of Galois orbits of geometric components of special subvarieties of Shimura varieties, assuming the Generalised Riemann Hypothesis. We proceed to show that sequences of special subvarieties whose Galois orbits have bounded degrees are equidistributed in a suitable sense.

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#### 1 Introduction.

The main motivation for this paper is the André-Oort conjecture stated below.

Conjecture 1.1 (André-Oort) Let S be a Shimura variety and let  $\Sigma$  be a set of special points in S. Every irreducible component of the Zariski closure of  $\Sigma$  is a special subvariety of S.

Some authors use the terminology 'subvarieties of Hodge type' instead of 'special subvarieties'. The two terms refer to the same notion. There are two main approaches to this conjecture which proved fruitful in some cases. One, due to Edixhoven and Yafaev (see [9] and [25]), relies on the Galois properties of special points and geometric properties of images of subvarieties of Shimura varieties by Hecke correspondences. The other, due to Clozel and Ullmo (see [3]), aims at proving that certain sequences of special subvarieties are equidistributed in a certain sense. This approach uses some deep theorems from ergodic theory. The purpose of this paper is to explain how to combine these two approaches in order to obtain a strategy for proving the André-Oort conjecture in full generality and to provide essential ingredients to apply this strategy. The strategy and the results of this paper are subsequently used in [12] by Klingler and Yafaev to prove the André-Oort conjecture assuming the Generalised Riemann Hypothesis (GRH).

To explain the alternative, we need to introduce some terminology. Let S be a connected component of a Shimura variety. There is a Shimura datum (G, X) and a compact open subgroup K of  $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$  such that S is a connected component of

$$\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X) := G(\mathbb{Q}) \backslash X \times G(\mathbb{A}_f) / K.$$

For the purpose of proving the conjecture 1.1, we may and do assume that S is the image of  $X^+ \times \{1\}$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$  (where  $X^+$  is a fixed connected component of X). A special subvariety Z of S is associated to a Shimura subdatum  $(H,X_H)$  of (G,X). More precisely, Z is an irreducible component of the image of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K\cap H(\mathbb{A}_f)}(H,X_H)$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$  contained in S. We are assuming that H is the generic Mumford-Tate group on  $X_H$ .

Let E be some number field over which S admits a canonical model. Let Z be a special subvariety of S associated to  $(H, X_H)$  as above.

By the degree of the Galois orbit of Z, denoted  $\deg(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E) \cdot Z)$ , we mean the degree of the subvariety  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E) \cdot Z$  calculated with respect to the

natural ample line bundle on the Baily-Borel compactification of  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$ . If Z is a special point, then  $\operatorname{deg}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E) \cdot Z)$  is simply the number of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E)$ -conjugates of Z.

The "philosophy" of this paper is the following alternative. Let  $(Z_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of special subvarieties of S. After possibly replacing  $(Z_n)$  by a subsequence and assuming the GRH for CM-fields, at least one of the following cases occurs.

- 1. The sequence  $\deg(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E) \cdot Z_n)$  tends to infinity as  $n \to \infty$  (and therefore Galois-theoretic and geometric techniques can be used).
- 2. The sequence of probability measures  $(\mu_n)$  canonically attached to  $(Z_n)$  weakly converges to some  $\mu_Z$ , the probability measure canonically attached to a special subvariety Z of S. Moreover, for every n large enough,  $Z_n$  is contained in Z. In other words, the sequence  $(Z_n)$  is equidistributed with respect to  $(Z, \mu_Z)$ .

Which of the two cases occurs depends on the geometric nature of the subvarieties  $Z_n$ . Let us explain this in more detail.

A special subvariety Z associated to a Shimura datum  $(H, X_H)$  as before (in particular H is the generic Mumford-Tate on  $X_H$ ) is called strongly special (see [3]) if the image of the group H in the adjoint group  $G^{\rm ad}$  is semisimple. Note that the condition (b) in the definition of "strongly special" ([3], 4.1) is in fact implied by the first (see [21] Rem. 3.9, or the proof of the theorem 3.8 of this paper). Clozel and Ullmo proved in [3] that if the subvarieties  $Z_n$  are strongly special then the second case of the alternative occurs. This result is unconditional.

On the other extreme, if H is a torus, then Z is a special point. If  $(Z_n)$  is a sequence of special points, then the first case of the alternative occurs (and the second in general does not: a sequence of special points is usually not equidistributed). This uses the GRH but we believe that one might be able to get rid of this assumption. We also prove the equidistribution result unconditionally in the case where the subvarieties  $Z_n$  satisfy an additional assumption. In the paper [25], lower bounds for Galois orbits of special points are given and used to prove the André-Oort conjecture for curves. However, these bounds are not strong enough to prove that they are unbounded for a general infinite sequence of special points.

The first thing we do in this paper is to give lower bounds for the degree of Galois orbits of special subvarieties which are not *strongly special* (Theorem

2.19). In the special case where H is a torus, we can show that given an infinite set  $\Sigma$  of special points, the size of the Galois orbit of the point x is unbounded as x ranges through  $\Sigma$ . This result is explained in the corollary 3.12. Lower bounds obtained in [25] do not allow to prove such a statement.

We now explain our lower bounds in detail. Let N be an integer. Let H be the generic Mumford-Tate group on  $X_H$  and let T be its connected centre. Suppose that T is a non-trivial torus. Let  $L_T$  be the splitting field of T. Let  $K_T^m$  be the maximal compact open subgroup of  $T(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . Note that  $K_T^m$  is a product of maximal compact open subgroups  $K_{T,p}^m$  of  $T(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  for all primes p. Let  $K_T$  be the compact open subgroup  $T(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K$  of  $T(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . We assume that K is a product of compact open subgroups  $K_p$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  in which case  $K_T$  is also a product of compact open subgroups  $K_{T,p}$  of  $T(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . Let Z be a component of the image of  $\mathrm{Sh}_{H(\mathbb{A}_f)\cap K}(H,X_H)$  in S.

We show (thm. 2.19), assuming the GRH, that there is a positive constant B (independent of Z and N)

$$\deg(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E) \cdot Z) \gg \prod_{\{p: K_{T,p}^m \neq K_{T,p}\}} \max(1, B|K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}|) \log(|\operatorname{disc}(L_T)|)^N.$$

We also obtain similar lower bounds for the degree of the Galois orbit of a Hodge generic irreducible subvariety Y of Z defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  when Y moreover satisfies a technical property (see thm. 2.19). This result will play no role in this paper but will be useful in the forthcoming paper by Klingler and Yafaev [12].

The next task we carry out is the analysis of the conditions, under which a given sequence of special subvarieties  $Z_n$  is such that  $\deg(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E) \cdot Z_n)$  is bounded. We translate this condition into explicit conditions on the Shimura data defining the subvarieties  $Z_n$ . We introduce the notion of a T-special subvariety. Suppose that G is semisimple of adjoint type and fix a subtorus T of G such that  $T(\mathbb{R})$  is compact. A T-Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  of (G, X) is a Shimura subdatum such that  $T = Z(H)^0$  is the connected centre of H. A T-special subvariety is a special subvariety defined by a T-special Shimura subdatum. Fix an integer M. We show (thm. 3.10), assuming the GRH, that there is a finite set  $\{T_1, \ldots, T_r\}$  of subtori of G such that any special subvariety Z with  $\deg(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E) \cdot Z) \leq M$  is  $T_i$ -special for some  $i = 1, \ldots, r$ . This result crucially relies on a result of Gille and Moret-Bailly [11].

Finally, using the ergodic methods of [3], we prove that if the degree of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E) \cdot Z_n$  is bounded (when n varies), then the second case of the alter-

native occurs. We actually show (thm. 3.8) that, for a fixed T, a sequence of T-special subvarieties is equidistributed in the sense explained above.

The alternative explained above is used in the forthcoming paper by Klingler and the second author [12] to prove the following theorem which is the most general result on the André-Oort conjecture obtained so far.

**Theorem 1.2** Let (G, X) be a Shimura datum and K a compact open subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . Let  $\Sigma$  be a set of special points in  $Sh_K(G, X)$ . We make one of the two following assumptions:

- 1. Assume the Generalised Riemann Hypothesis (GRH) for CM fields.
- 2. Assume that there exists a faithful representation  $G \hookrightarrow GL_n$  such that with respect to this representation, the Mumford-Tate groups MT(s) lie in one  $GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$ -conjugacy class as s ranges through  $\Sigma$ .

Then every irreducible component of the Zariski closure of  $\Sigma$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$  is a special subvariety.

Klingler and Yafaev started working together on this conjecture in 2003 trying to generalise the Edixhoven-Yafaev strategy to the general case of the André-Oort conjecture. In the process two main difficulties occurred. One is the question of irreducibility of transforms of subvarieties under Hecke correspondences. This problem is dealt with in the forthcoming paper by Klingler and Yafaev, this allows to treat the cases where the first case of the alternative explained above occurs.

The other difficulty was dealing with sets of special subvarieties which are defined over number fields of bounded degree. We overcome this difficulty in the present paper. In fact, we show that this is precisely when the second case of the alternative occurs. This strategy: a combination of Galois theoretic and ergodic techniques was discovered by the authors of this paper while the second author was visiting the University of Paris-Sud in January-February 2005. We tested our strategy on the case of subvarieties of a product of modular curves (see [22]).

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# 2 Degrees of Galois orbits of special subvarieties.

In this section we give lower bounds for the degrees of the Galois orbits of special subvarieties that are not strongly special (actually we prove a more general statement as explained in the introduction).

## 2.1 Preliminaries on special subvarieties and reciprocity morphisms.

We start by recalling some facts about special subvarieties, reciprocity morphisms and the Galois action on the geometric components of Shimura varieties. If Z is a topological space, we denote by  $\pi_0(Z)$  the set of connected components of Z.

Let (G, X) be a Shimura datum. We fix a faithful representation of G which allows us to view G as a closed subgroup of some  $GL_n$ . Let K be a compact open subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$  which is contained in  $GL_n(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$ . We also assume that K is a product of compact open subgroups  $K_p$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ .

Let  $(H, X_H)$  be a Shimura subdatum of (G, X). We suppose that H is not semisimple (its connected centre is non-trivial). Let T be the connected centre of H, so that T is a non-trivial torus and H is an almost direct product

 $TH^{\mathrm{der}}$ .

Let  $K_H$  be the compact open subgroup  $H(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K$  of  $H(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . We first describe the Galois action on the set of components of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H)$ . We refer to the sections 2.4-2.6 of [5] for details and proofs. We denote by  $H(\mathbb{R})_+$  the stabiliser of a connected component of  $X_H$  in  $H(\mathbb{R})$  and  $H(\mathbb{Q})_+ = H(\mathbb{Q}) \cap H(\mathbb{R})_+$ . Let  $\pi_0(H, K_H)$  be the set of geometric components of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H)$ . Recall ([5] 2.1.3.1) that

$$\pi_0(H, K_H) = H(\mathbb{Q})_+ \backslash H(\mathbb{A}_f) / K_H = H(\mathbb{A}_f) / H(\mathbb{Q})_+ K_H.$$

Let  $E_H := E(H, X_H)$  be the reflex field of  $(H, X_H)$  and  $T_{E_H} := \operatorname{Res}_{E_H/\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{G}_{mE_H}$ . Following Deligne ([5] 2.0.15.1) we define for any reductive  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group N

$$\pi(N) := N(\mathbb{A})/N(\mathbb{Q})\rho(\widetilde{N}(\mathbb{A})).$$

Here  $\rho: \widetilde{N} \longrightarrow N^{\operatorname{der}}$  denotes the universal covering of  $N^{\operatorname{der}}$ . Notice that  $\pi_0(\pi(N))$  is an abelian group with a natural action of the abelian group  $\pi_0(N(\mathbb{R})_+)$ . Let

$$\overline{\pi_0}(\pi(N)) := \pi_0(\pi(N)) / \pi_0(N(\mathbb{R})_+).$$

Then by ([5] 2.1.3.2) we have

$$\pi_0(H, K_H) = \overline{\pi_0}(\pi(H))/K_H.$$

The action of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E_H)$  on  $\pi_0(H, K_H)$  is given by the reciprocity morphism ([5] 2.6.1.1)

$$r_{(H,X_H)} \colon \operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E_H) \longrightarrow \overline{\pi_0}(\pi(H)).$$

The morphism  $r_{(H,X_H)}$  factors through  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E_H)^{\operatorname{ab}}$  which is identified via the global class field theory with  $\pi_0(\pi(T_{E_H}))$ .

Let C be the torus  $H/H^{\text{der}}$ . To  $(H, X_H)$  one associates two Shimura data  $(C, \{x\})$  and  $(H^{\text{ad}}, X_{H^{\text{ad}}})$ . The field  $E_H$  is the composite of  $E(C, \{x\})$  and  $E(H^{\text{ad}}, X_{H^{\text{ad}}})$  by the proposition 3.8 of [4]. There are morphisms of Shimura data

$$\theta^{\mathrm{ab}} \colon (H, X_H) \longrightarrow (C, \{x\}) \text{ and } \theta^{\mathrm{ad}} \colon (H, X_H) \longrightarrow (H^{\mathrm{ad}}, X_{H^{\mathrm{ad}}}).$$
 (1)

Note that  $(C, \{x\})$  is a Shimura datum. Let  $r_{(C,\{x\})}$  be the reciprocity morphism associated with  $(C, \{x\})$ . Then  $r_{(C,\{x\})}$  is induced from a morphism

of algebraic tori  $r_C: T_F \longrightarrow C$ . The morphism  $\theta^{ab}$  induces a morphism  $\overline{\pi_0}(\pi(H)) \to \overline{\pi_0}(\pi(C))$ . This morphism preceded by  $r_{(H,X_H)}$  is  $r_{(C,\{x\})}$ .

It is convenient and sometimes essential to make the assumption that H is the generic Mumford-Tate group on  $X_H$ . Below we prove a lemma which will allow us to make this assumption. Let  $X^+$  be a connected component of X and  $G(\mathbb{Q})_+$  the stabiliser of  $X^+$  in  $G(\mathbb{Q})$ . Let  $\Gamma := G(\mathbb{Q})_+ \cap K$  and S be the component  $\Gamma \backslash X^+$  of  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$ . Note that S is the image of  $X^+ \times \{1\}$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$ .

**Lemma 2.1** Let V be a special subvariety of S. There exists a Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  of (G, X) such that H is the generic Mumford-Tate group on  $X_H$  and V is the image of a connected component of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K\cap H(\mathbb{A}_f)}(H, X_H)$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G, X)$  by the natural map induced by the inclusion  $(H, X_H) \subset (G, X)$  (we emphasize here that no Hecke correspondence is involved).

There exists a connected component  $X_H^+$  of  $X_H$  contained in  $X^+$  such that V is the image of  $X_H^+ \times \{1\}$  in  $Sh_K(G, X)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $v \in V \subset S$  be a Hodge generic point of V and  $x \in X^+$  mapping to v. Let H be the Mumford-Tate group of x,  $X_H := H(\mathbb{R}).x$  and  $X_H^+ := H(\mathbb{R})^+.x$ . Then  $(H, X_H)$  is a Shimura subdatum of (G, X) (see for example [21], Lemme 3.3). Therefore the image V' of  $X_H^+ \times \{1\}$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G, X)$  is a special subvariety containing v. As v is Hodge generic in V, it follows that V is the smallest special subvariety of  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G, X)$  containing v. Therefore  $V \subset V'$ . As V and V' are irreducible and have the same dimension  $\dim(X_H^+)$  we have V = V'.

In view of this lemma, for the rest of this section, we only consider Shimura subdata  $(H, X_H) \subset (G, X)$  such that H is the generic Mumford-Tate group on  $X_H$ . In particular we will assume that G is the generic Mumford-Tate group on X.

**Lemma 2.2** Suppose that the centre  $Z(G)(\mathbb{R})$  is compact. Let  $(H, X_H)$  and  $K_H$  be as above, with H being the generic Mumford-Tate group on  $X_H$ . Let  $f: Sh_{K_H}(H, X_H) \longrightarrow Sh_K(G, X)$  be the morphism induced by the inclusion  $(H, X_H)$  into (G, X).

The restrictions of

$$f : \operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H) \longrightarrow f(\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H))$$

to the irreducible components of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H,X_H)$  are generically finite. Moreover the degrees of the restrictions of f to the irreducible components of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H,X_H)$  are uniformly bounded when  $(H,X_H)$  varies. Furthermore, if K is neat, then f is generically injective and the restriction of f to the Hodge generic locus is injective. See ([2] sec. 17.1) for a definition of a neat subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{Q})$  and ([17] sec. 0.6) for the definition of a neat compact open subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . In particular, the number of irreducible components of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H,X_H)$  is, up to a uniform (on  $(H,X_H)$ ) constant, bounded by the number of irreducible components of its image in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$ .

**Remark 2.3** The assumption that  $Z(G)(\mathbb{R})$  is compact implies that the stabiliser in  $G(\mathbb{R})$  of any point  $x \in X$  is compact. As a consequence, for any Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  of (G, X), the centre  $Z(H)(\mathbb{R})$  is compact. This is in particular the case when G is semisimple of adjoint type.

Indeed, let  $x \in X$ . By the general theory of symmetric spaces the stabiliser of x in  $G(\mathbb{R})$  is compact modulo  $Z(G)(\mathbb{R})$ . By assumption,  $Z(G)(\mathbb{R})$  is compact, therefore the stabiliser of x in  $G(\mathbb{R})$  is compact.

Let  $(H, X_H)$  be a Shimura subdatum of (G, X). Let  $x_H \in X_H$ . Then  $Z(H)(\mathbb{R})$  is contained in the stabiliser of  $x_H$  in  $G(\mathbb{R})$ . Hence  $Z(H)(\mathbb{R})$  is compact.

**Proof.** First note that it suffices to prove that the morphism f is generically injective when K is neat. Indeed, any compact open subgroup K of  $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$  contains a neat compact open subgroup K' of finite index (see [17] sec. 0.6). Using the generic injectivity of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K'_H}(H, X_H) \longrightarrow \operatorname{Sh}_{K'}(G, X)$ , one easily sees that the degrees of the restrictions of f to the irreducible components of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H)$  are bounded by the index of K' in K.

Suppose that K is neat. Let  $\overline{(x_1,h_1)}$  and  $\overline{(x_2,h_2)}$  be two points of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H,X_H)$  having the same image by f. As we are proving injectivity on the Hodge generic locus, we assume that  $\operatorname{MT}(x_1) = \operatorname{MT}(x_2) = H$ .

There exist an element q of  $G(\mathbb{Q})$  and an element k of K such that  $x_2 = qx_1$  and  $h_2 = qh_1k$ .

The fact that  $MT(x_1) = MT(x_2) = H$  implies that q belongs to the normaliser  $N_G(H)(\mathbb{Q})$  of H in G. Therefore k belongs to  $N_G(H)(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K$ . Let us check that the group  $N_G(H)^0$  is reductive. There is an element x of X that factors through  $N_G(H)_{\mathbb{R}}$ . Then  $x(\mathbb{S})$  normalises the unipotent radical  $R_u$  of  $N_G(H)$  hence  $Lie(R_u)$  is a rational polarisable Hodge structure and the Killing form is non degenerate on  $Lie(R_u)$ . It follows that  $R_u$  is reductive and therefore is trivial.

We claim that the group  $G' := N_G(H)/H$  has the property that  $G'(\mathbb{R})$  is compact. Indeed as  $N_G(H)^0$  is reductive  $N_G(H)^0$  is an almost direct product in G of the form  $N_G(H)^0 = HL$  with L reductive. Then  $L(\mathbb{R})$  is compact by the remark 2.3 as it stabilises any point of  $X_H$ . As the image of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  in  $G'(\mathbb{R})$  is of finite index in  $G'(\mathbb{R})$  the group  $G'(\mathbb{R})$  is compact.

The equality  $h_2 = qh_1k$  shows that q belongs to  $H(\mathbb{A}_f) \cdot (N_G(H)(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K)$ . Indeed, as q is in  $N_G(H)(\mathbb{A}_f)$ , there is a  $h' \in H(\mathbb{A}_f)$  such that

$$qh_1 = h'q$$

and we get  $q = h'^{-1}h_2k^{-1} \in H(\mathbb{A}_f) \cdot (N_G(H)(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K)$ .

It follows that the image  $\overline{q}$  of q in  $G'(\mathbb{Q})$  is contained in the image K' of  $N_G(H)(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K$  which is a compact subgroup of  $G'(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . Therefore  $\overline{q} \in \Gamma' := G'(\mathbb{Q}) \cap K'$  and as  $G'(\mathbb{R})$  is compact, the group  $\Gamma'$  is finite. As K is neat, K' is neat by ([2] Cor. 17.3 p. 118) and  $\Gamma'$  is trivial. It follows that q belongs to  $H(\mathbb{Q})$  and k to  $K_H := H(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K$ . We conclude that the points  $\overline{(x_1, h_1)}$  and  $\overline{(x_2, h_2)}$  of  $\mathrm{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H)$  are equal. This finishes the proof.

Recall that T is the connected centre of H and C is  $H/H^{\mathrm{der}}$ . Note that there is an isogeny  $\alpha: T \longrightarrow C$  with kernel  $T \cap H^{\mathrm{der}}$ , given by the restriction of the quotient map  $H \longrightarrow H/H^{\mathrm{der}}$  to T. We will make use of the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.4** The order of the group  $T \cap H^{\operatorname{der}}$  is uniformly bounded as  $(H, X_H)$  ranges through the Shimura subdata of (G, X). Let  $\rho : \tilde{H} \to H^{\operatorname{der}}$  be the universal covering map. Then the degree of  $\rho$  is uniformly bounded as well.

**Proof.** As  $T \cap H^{\operatorname{der}}$  is contained in the centre of  $H^{\operatorname{der}}$ , we just need a uniform bound on orders of the centres of the universal coverings of connected semisimple subgroups of G. Let L be a connected semisimple subgroup of G and let  $D_L$  be the Dynkin diagram of  $L_{\mathbb{C}}$ . As the rank of  $L_{\mathbb{C}}$  is bounded by the rank of  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ , there are only finitely many possibilities for  $D_L$ . For each of these possibilities, the order of the centre of the universal covering of  $L_{\mathbb{C}}$  is bounded by the index of the lattice of roots in the lattice of weights.

We recall that we have fixed a faithful representation V of G. Let  $\rho_T \colon T \hookrightarrow \operatorname{GL}(V)$  be the restriction of the representation  $G \subset \operatorname{GL}(V)$  to T. We now prove some uniformity results regarding the characters occurring in  $\rho_T$  and the reciprocity morphism  $r_C \colon T_F \to C$ .

**Lemma 2.5** There is a constant  $R_0$  such that for any sub Shimura-datum  $(H, X_H)$ , the degree of the reflex field  $E(H, X_H)$  over E(G, X) is bounded by  $R_0$ .

**Proof.** By Remark 12.3 (a) of [15],  $E(H, X_H)$  is contained in any splitting field of H. The degree of any such splitting field is bounded in terms of the dimension of G only.

Fix a positive integer  $R \geq R_0$ . For any Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  of (G, X), we let F be a finite extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  of degree bounded by R containing the reflex field  $E(H, X_H)$ . We assume that such a choice of R is made in the rest of the text.

Assume moreover in this section only that F is a Galois extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . By our assumption, there are only finitely many possibilities for the isomorphism class of  $\operatorname{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q})$ . For the purposes of the present paper we can take F to be equal to the Galois closure of  $E(H, X_H)$ . However, we introduce extra flexibility on the field F for some applications in [12].

We may thus assume that  $\operatorname{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q})$  is isomorphic to a fixed abstract group  $\Delta$ . Let  $T_F$  be the torus  $\operatorname{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}}\mathbb{G}_{m,F}$ . We write  $H = TH^{\operatorname{der}}$  and we let  $\mu \colon \mathbb{G}_{m,\mathbb{C}} \longrightarrow H_{\mathbb{C}}$  be the cocharacter  $h_{\mathbb{C}}(z,1)$  where h is an element of  $X_H$  such that  $\operatorname{MT}(h) = H$ . We write

$$V_{\mathbb{C}} = \oplus V_{\mathbb{C}}^{p,q} \tag{2}$$

the Hodge decomposition of  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$  induced by h.

The composition of  $\mu$  with  $H_{\mathbb{C}} \longrightarrow C_{\mathbb{C}}$  gives a cocharacter  $\mathbb{G}_{m,\mathbb{C}} \longrightarrow C_{\mathbb{C}}$  which we denote by  $\mu_C$ . The cocharacter  $\mu_C$  is defined over F. Each  $\sigma$  in  $\Delta$  defines a character  $\chi_{\sigma}$  and a cocharacter  $\mu_{\sigma}$  of the torus  $T_F$ . Moreover  $X^*(T_F) = \bigoplus_{\sigma \in \Delta} \mathbb{Z} \chi_{\sigma}$  and  $X_*(T_F) = \bigoplus_{\sigma \in \Delta} \mathbb{Z} \mu_{\sigma}$ . In this way, we get a "canonical" basis for the character (respectively cocharacter) group of the torus  $T_F$ . There is a natural pairing

$$<,>: X^*(T_F) \times X_*(T_F) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

defined by  $\langle \chi_{\sigma}, \mu_{\tau} \rangle = \delta_{\sigma,\tau}$  for all  $\sigma, \tau$  in  $\Delta$ . The reciprocity morphism  $r_C \colon T_F \longrightarrow C$  induces the morphism  $r_{C*} \colon X_*(T_F) \to X_*(C)$  which sends the cocharacter  $\mu_{\sigma}$  to  $\sigma(\mu_C)$  and an injection  $X^*(C) \subset X^*(T_F)$ . We identify  $X^*(C)$  with its image in  $X^*(T_F)$ .

By lemma 2.4, the isogeny  $\alpha \colon T \longrightarrow C$  has uniformly bounded degree, say m. Therefore there is a unique surjective morphism of algebraic tori  $r \colon T_F \longrightarrow T$  such that

$$\alpha \circ r = r_C^m$$
.

The morphism r identifies  $X^*(T)$  with a submodule of  $X^*(T_F)$ . We will consider the coordinates of the characters in  $X^*(T)$  with respect to the basis of  $X^*(T_F)$  described previously.

**Lemma 2.6** With respect to the chosen basis of  $X^*(T_F)$  and the identification of  $X^*(C)$  with a submodule of  $X^*(T_F)$ , there is a finite subset of  $X^*(C)$  generating  $X^*(C) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  whose coordinates are bounded uniformly on  $(H, X_H)$ .

The coordinates of the characters  $\chi$  of T intervening in the representation  $\rho_T \colon T \hookrightarrow \operatorname{GL}(V)$ , with respect to the basis of  $X^*(T_F)$  described above, are bounded uniformly on  $(H, X_H)$ .

The size of the torsion of  $X^*(T_F)/X^*(T)$  is bounded uniformly on  $(H, X_H)$ .

**Proof.** As the isogeny  $T \longrightarrow C$  has order m, the representation  $\rho_T^m$  induces a representation  $(V, \rho_C)$  of C.

The Shimura datum  $(C, \{x\})$  as before induces a Hodge structure  $V(\rho_C)$  on V by composing x with  $\rho_C$ . Let

$$V_{\mathbb{C}}(\rho_C) = \bigoplus_{(p,q)} V_{\mathbb{C}}(\rho_C)^{p,q} \tag{3}$$

be the associated Hodge decomposition. Let  $\{\chi'_i\} \in X^*(C)$  be the set of characters that intervene in the representation  $\rho_C$ . As  $\rho_T$  is faithful, the  $\{\chi'_i\}$  generate  $X^*(C) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ . We will show that the coordinates of the  $\chi'_i$  in the chosen basis of  $X^*(T_F)$  are uniformly bounded.

These coordinates are the

$$<\chi'_{i}, r_{C*}(\mu_{\sigma})> = <\chi'_{i}, \sigma(\mu_{C})> = <\sigma^{-1}(\chi'_{i}), \mu_{C}>$$

(where  $<,>: X^*(C) \times X_*(C) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is the canonical pairing). But these quantities are p-components of the weights in the Hodge structure (3) given by composing x with  $\rho_C$ . We just need to show that these weights are uniformly bounded on  $(H^{\mathrm{der}}, X_{H^{\mathrm{der}}})$ . This will be deduced by comparing the p-components of the Hodge structure  $V(\rho_C)$  with the ones of V given in the equation (2).

As the characters  $\{\chi_i\} \in X^*(T)$  occurring in  $\rho_T$  are such that  $\chi'_i = \chi_i^m$  with m uniformly bounded, the result for the coordinates of  $\chi_i$  in the chosen

basis of  $X^*(T_F)$  is a consequence of the corresponding result for the  $\chi_i'$ . The statement concerning the size of the torsion of  $X^*(T_F)/X^*(T)$  is a direct consequence of the result on the coordinates of the  $\chi_i$ .

Let  $T_{H^{\mathrm{der}}}$  be a maximal torus of  $H^{\mathrm{der}}_{\mathbb{C}}$  such that  $\mu$  factors through  $T_{\mathbb{C}}T_{H^{\mathrm{der}}}$ . Let  $\widetilde{T_{\mathbb{C}}}$  be the almost direct product  $T_{\mathbb{C}}T_{H^{\mathrm{der}}}$ , the torus  $\widetilde{T_{\mathbb{C}}}$  is a maximal torus of  $H_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the root system associated to  $(T_{H^{\mathrm{der}}}, H^{\mathrm{der}}_{\mathbb{C}})$ . There are only a finite, uniformly bounded number of possibilities for  $\mathcal{R}$ . The representation of H, induces a representation of  $H^{\mathrm{der}}$ . The dimensions of the irreducible factors of this representation are uniformly bounded hence there is only a finite (uniformly bounded) number of characters of  $T_{H^{\mathrm{der}}}$  that intervene in the representation.

As  $T \cap H^{\text{der}}$  is finite, we have a direct sum decomposition

$$X^*(\widetilde{T_{\mathbb{C}}})_{\mathbb{Q}} = X^*(T_{\mathbb{C}})_{\mathbb{Q}} \oplus X^*(T_{H^{\mathrm{der}}})_{\mathbb{Q}}$$

and a similar decomposition for  $X_*(\widetilde{T_{\mathbb{C}}})_{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

Let  $\chi$  be a character of  $\widetilde{T}_{\mathbb{C}}$  that intervenes in the representation  $\widetilde{T}_{\mathbb{C}} \subset \operatorname{GL}(V_{\mathbb{C}})$ . The direct sum decompositions above give the decompositions  $\chi = \chi_T + \chi_{H^{\operatorname{der}}}$  and  $\mu = \mu_T + \mu_{H^{\operatorname{der}}}$ .

The values taken by the  $\langle \chi, \mu \rangle$  are the p such that  $V_{\mathbb{C}}^{p,q}$  is non-zero in the Hodge decomposition (2). Hence they are finite in number and uniformly bounded. On the other hand, we have

$$<\chi, \mu> = <\chi_T, \mu_T> + <\chi_{H^{der}}, \mu_{H^{der}}>$$

where  $\chi_T$  and  $\chi_{H^{\mathrm{der}}}$  are the restrictions of  $\chi$  to T and  $T_{H^{\mathrm{der}}}$  respectively. In the decomposition

$$\mu = \mu_T + \mu_{H^{\text{der}}}$$

there is only a finite number of possibilities for  $\mu_{H^{\text{der}}}$ . This is a consequence of the theory of symmetric spaces. To see this, we decompose the root system  $\mathcal{R}$  into irreducible factors  $\mathcal{R}_i$ . The components of the  $\mu$  on  $\mathcal{R}_i$  are either trivial or correspond to minuscule weights of the dual root system  $\mathcal{R}_i^{\vee}$ .

It follows that  $\langle \chi_{H^{\text{der}}}, \mu_{H^{\text{der}}} \rangle$  takes only finitely many values and so does  $\langle \chi_T, \mu_T \rangle$ . As m is uniformly bounded the  $\langle \chi_T^m, \mu \rangle$  are uniformly bounded. This finishes the proof as the  $\langle \chi_T^m, \mu \rangle$  are the p-components of the weights in the Hodge decomposition (3).

Finally for later use we prove a certain number of uniformity results concerning the reciprocity morphism. We keep the previous notations,  $(H, X_H)$  is a Shimura subdatum of (G, X),  $H = TH^{\text{der}}$ ,  $C = H/H^{\text{der}}$  and F, as before, is a finite Galois extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  containing the Galois closure of the reflex field  $E(H, X_H)$  of  $(H, X_H)$ , of degree over  $\mathbb{Q}$  bounded by some constant R depending on (G, X) only.

The reciprocity morphism

$$r_{(C,\{x\})}: \operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)^{\operatorname{ab}} \simeq \pi_0 \pi(T_F) \to \overline{\pi_0}(\pi(C))$$

factors through  $\pi_0(\pi(C))$  and

$$r_{(H,X_H)}: \operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)^{\operatorname{ab}} \simeq \pi_0 \pi(T_F) \to \overline{\pi_0}(\pi(H))$$

factors through  $\pi_0(\pi(H))$ . We will also write  $r_{(C,\{x\})}$  and  $r_{(H,X_H)}$  for the induced maps from  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)$  or  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)^{\operatorname{ab}}$  to  $\pi_0(\pi(C))$  and  $\pi_0(\pi(H))$  respectively. The map  $r_C: T_F \to C$  induces a map

$$r_{C,\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{O}}:\pi(T_F)\to\pi(C)$$

and  $r_{(C,\{x\})}$  is obtained from  $r_{C,\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}$  by applying the functor  $\pi_0$ . By [5] 2.5.3, the map  $r_{(H,X_H)}$  is also obtained by applying the functor  $\pi_0$  to a map

$$r_{H,\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}:\pi(T_F)\to\pi(H).$$

The projection  $H \to C$  will be denoted by p so  $p = \theta^{ab}$  in the notations of section 2.1, equation (1).

If  $\alpha: G_1 \to G_2$  is a morphism of reductive  $\mathbb{Q}$ -groups we write  $\alpha_l: G_1(\mathbb{Q}_l) \to G_2(\mathbb{Q}_l), \alpha_\infty: G_1(\mathbb{R}) \to G_2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\alpha_\mathbb{A}: G_1(\mathbb{A}) \to G_2(\mathbb{A})$  for the associated morphisms at the level of  $\mathbb{Q}_l$ -points, real points and adelic points respectively. The map  $p: H \to C$  induces maps

$$p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}: \pi(H) \to \pi(C),$$

$$\pi_0(p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}):\pi_0(\pi(H))\to\pi_0(\pi(C))$$

and

$$\overline{\pi_0}(p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}): \pi_0(\pi(H)) \to \overline{\pi_0}(\pi(C)).$$

Finally, for any reductive  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group  $G_1$ , and any  $g \in G_1(\mathbb{A})$  we write  $\overline{g}$  for the image of g in  $\pi(G_1)$ , and  $\pi_0(\overline{g})$  (resp.  $\overline{\pi_0}(\overline{g})$ ) for the image of g in  $\pi_0(\pi(G_1)$  (resp.  $\overline{\pi_0}(\pi(G_1))$ .)

**Lemma 2.7** There is an integer  $n_1$  such that for any sub Shimura datum (H, X) of (G, X) the following holds.

- (a) For any prime number l and for any  $m \in T(\mathbb{Q}_l)$ ,  $m^{n_1} \in p_l^{-1}(r_{C,l}(T_F(\mathbb{Q}_l)))$ . For any  $m \in T(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $m^{n_1} \in p_{\infty}^{-1}(r_{C,\infty}(T_F(\mathbb{R})))$ .
- (b) Let us fix some models of  $T_F$ , H, T and C over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Then for any l big enough (depending on  $(H, X_H)$  and the choice of the models over  $\mathbb{Z}$ ) and any  $m \in T(\mathbb{Z}_l)$ ,  $m^{n_1} \in p_l^{-1}(r_{C,l}(T_F(\mathbb{Z}_l)))$ .
- (c) For any  $m \in T(\mathbb{A})$ ,  $m^{n_1} \in p_{\mathbb{A}}^{-1}(r_{C,\mathbb{A}}(T_F(\mathbb{A})))$  and the class  $\overline{m^{n_1}}$  in  $\pi(H)$  is in  $p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}^{-1}(r_{C,\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}(\pi(T_F)))$ .

**Proof.** The element x gives a cocharacter  $\mu_{\mathbb{C}} \colon \mathbb{G}_{m\mathbb{C}} \longrightarrow C_{\mathbb{C}}$  defined by  $\mu_{\mathbb{C}}(z) = x_{\mathbb{C}}(z,1)$ . The morphism  $r_C \colon T_F \longrightarrow C$  corresponds to the morphism on cocharacter groups  $X_*(T_F) \longrightarrow X_*(C)$  which sends the cocharacter  $\mu_{\sigma} \in X_*(T_F)$  (induced by  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Hom}(F,\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$ ) to  $\sigma(\mu_{\mathbb{C}})$ . The lemma 2.6 says that there is a basis  $(\chi_i)$  of characters of C such that the  $<\chi_i,\sigma(\mu_{\mathbb{C}})>$  are uniformly bounded. We first verify that there is an integer n bounded independently of  $(H,X_H)$  and a morphism  $s:C\to T_F$  such that  $f:=r_C\circ s$  is the n-th power homomorphism from C to C.

As before, we identify the character group  $X^*(C)$  with a sub- $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $X^*(T_F)$  via  $X^*(r_C)$ . Using lemma 2.6 we see there exists a basis  $\psi_1, \ldots, \psi_t$  of  $X^*(T_F)$  and integers  $d_1, \ldots, d_u$  bounded independently of  $(H, X_H)$ , such that  $d_1\psi_1, \ldots, d_u\psi_u$  is a basis of  $X^*(C) \subset X^*(T_F)$ . Let  $n := \prod d_i$ . This is an integer bounded independently of  $(H, X_H)$ . Then the morphism  $X^*(T_F) \longrightarrow X^*(C)$  sending  $\psi_i$  to  $n\psi_i$  for  $1 \le i \le u$  and  $\psi_i$  to 0 for i > u, corresponds to a morphism  $s : C \longrightarrow T_F$  as claimed.

It follows that  $r_{C,l}(T_F(\mathbb{Q}_l))$  contains  $U_n := f_l(C(\mathbb{Q}_l))$ . The kernel of  $f_l \otimes \overline{\mathbb{Q}_l}$  is killed by n. Writing down the corresponding Galois cohomology sequence, we see that  $C(\mathbb{Q}_l)/f_l(C(\mathbb{Q}_l))$  is killed by n. Therefore,  $C(\mathbb{Q}_l)/r_{C,l}(T_F(\mathbb{Q}_l))$  is also killed by n.

At the level of real points, notice that the map  $f_{\mathbb{R}}$  induces a surjective morphism  $C(\mathbb{R})^+ \longrightarrow C(\mathbb{R})^+$  where  $C(\mathbb{R})^+$  is the neutral component of  $C(\mathbb{R})$ . By [23], 10.1,

$$C(\mathbb{R}) = (\mathbb{R}^*)^a \times (\mathbb{C}^*)^b \times \mathrm{SO}(2)(\mathbb{R})^c$$

where a, b, c are some integers. It follows that  $\pi_0(C(\mathbb{R})) = C(\mathbb{R})/C(\mathbb{R})^+$  is killed by two (notice that  $\mathbb{C}^*$  and  $SO(2)(\mathbb{R})$  are connected). Let n' be the

maximum of all the possible integers n as above. Let  $n_1 = \max(2, n')!$ , then  $n_1$  satisfies the conditions of (a).

For (b), let  $\theta \in C(\mathbb{Z}_l)$ . Then  $\theta^{n_1} = r_{C,l}s_l(\theta)$ . For any l large enough  $T_F(\mathbb{Z}_l)$  is the maximal compact open subgroup of  $T_F(\mathbb{Q}_l)$ . As  $s_l(C(\mathbb{Z}_l)) \subset T_F(\mathbb{Q}_l)$  is compact, for any l large enough  $s_l(C(\mathbb{Z}_l)) \subset T_F(\mathbb{Z}_l)$ . Therefore, for l large enough,  $s_l(\theta) \in T_F(\mathbb{Z}_l)$  and  $\theta^{n_1} \in r_{C,l}(T_F(\mathbb{Z}_l))$ .

The part (c) is a direct consequence of (a) and (b).  $\Box$ 

From this point and for the rest of the paper we make the assumption that  $Z(G)(\mathbb{R})$  is compact, which in particular implies that  $C(\mathbb{R})$  is compact by the remark 2.3.

**Lemma 2.8** There exists a uniform integer  $n_0$  such that any element of the kernel of  $\overline{\pi_0}(p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}): \pi_0(\pi(H)) \to \overline{\pi_0}(\pi(C))$  is killed by  $n_0$ .

**Proof.** Let  $y \in H(\mathbb{A})$  such that  $\pi_0(\overline{y})$  is in the kernel of  $\overline{\pi_0}(p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}})$ . As  $\pi_0(C(\mathbb{R}))$  is bounded of uniformly bounded degree we may assume that  $\pi_0(\overline{y})$  is in the kernel of  $\pi_0(p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}) : \pi_0(\pi(H)) \to \pi_0(\pi(C))$ .

Recall that  $T \cap H^{\text{der}}$  is finite of uniformly bounded order by the lemma 2.4. Let M be a uniform bound on this order and let  $n_2 := M!$ .

There exist an element t in  $T(\mathbb{A})$  and h in  $H^{\mathrm{der}}(\mathbb{A})$  such that

$$y^{n_2} = t \cdot h.$$

By the lemma 2.4 the group  $H^{\operatorname{der}}(\mathbb{A})/\rho \widetilde{H}(\mathbb{A})$  is killed by a uniformly bounded integer. Let M' a uniform bound for this integer and  $n_3 := M'!$ . Then  $\overline{y}^{n_2 n_3}$  and  $\overline{t}^{n_3}$  coincide as elements of  $\pi(H)$  and  $\pi_0(\overline{y}^{n_2 n_3})$  and  $\pi_0(\overline{t}^{n_3})$  coincide as elements of  $\pi_0(\pi(H))$ .

By [5] 2.2.3,

$$\pi_0(\pi(T)) = \pi_0(T(\mathbb{R})) \times T(\mathbb{A}_f)/T(\mathbb{Q})^-,$$

where  $T(\mathbb{Q})^-$  is the closure of  $T(\mathbb{Q})$  in  $T(\mathbb{A}_f)$  for the adelic topology. As  $T(\mathbb{R})$  is compact,  $T(\mathbb{Q})$  is discrete in  $T(\mathbb{A}_f)$  (see [15], thm 5.26). Therefore

$$\pi_0(\pi(T)) = \pi_0(T(\mathbb{R})) \times T(\mathbb{A}_f)/T(\mathbb{Q}).$$

As  $C(\mathbb{R})$  is also compact, in the same way we have

$$\pi_0(\pi(C)) = \pi_0(C(\mathbb{R})) \times C(\mathbb{A}_f)/C(\mathbb{Q}).$$

As a consequence we obtain  $\overline{\pi_0}(\pi(C)) = C(\mathbb{A}_f)/C(\mathbb{Q})$ . Consider the exact sequence

$$1 \longrightarrow W \longrightarrow T \xrightarrow{\alpha} C \longrightarrow 1$$

where  $W = T \cap H^{\text{der}}$ . Notice that the order of W divides  $n_2$ . We recall that the restriction of p to T is denoted  $\alpha$ .

As  $\pi_0(\overline{y})$  (and hence  $\pi_0(\overline{y}^{n_2n_3})$ ) is in the kernel of  $\pi_0(p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}})$ , we have

$$p_{\mathbb{A}}(t^{n_3}) = \alpha_{\mathbb{A}}(t^{n_3}) = c\underline{c}_{\infty}$$

with  $c \in C(\mathbb{Q})$  and  $\underline{c}_{\infty} = (c_{\infty}, 1)$  is an element of  $C(\mathbb{A})$  with all finite components trivial and with the component at infinity  $c_{\infty} \in C(\mathbb{R})^+$ .

As  $\alpha_{\infty}$  induces a surjective map from  $T(\mathbb{R})^+$  to  $C(\mathbb{R})^+$  there exists  $\theta_{\infty} \in T(\mathbb{R})^+$  such that  $\alpha_{\infty}(\theta_{\infty}) = c_{\infty}$ . Let  $\underline{\theta}_{\infty}$  be the element  $(\theta_{\infty}, 1)$  of  $T(\mathbb{A})$ . Then  $\alpha_{\mathbb{A}}(\underline{\theta}_{\infty}) = \underline{c}_{\infty}$ .

An  $n_2$ -th power of any element of  $C(\mathbb{Q})$  is in the image of  $T(\mathbb{Q})$  hence there exists a q in  $T(\mathbb{Q})$  such that

$$\alpha_{\mathbb{A}}(t^{n_3n_2}) = \alpha_{\mathbb{A}}(q)\alpha_{\mathbb{A}}(\underline{\theta}_{\infty}^{n_2}).$$

It follows that

$$t^{n_3n_2} = qw\underline{\theta}_{\infty}^{n_2}$$

where w is in  $W(\mathbb{A})$ . As  $W(\mathbb{A})$  is killed by  $n_2$ , we see that  $t^{n_3n_2^2} = q^{n_2}\underline{\theta}_{\infty}^{n_2^2}$ . We have

$$\pi_0(\overline{t})^{n_3 n_2^2} = \pi_0(\overline{y})^{n_3 n_2^3}$$

and therefore a uniform power of y has trivial image in  $\pi_0\pi(H)$ .

We can now prove the following:

**Proposition 2.9** There is an integer A such that for any  $(H, X_H)$  and F as above and for any  $m \in T(\mathbb{A})$ , the class  $\overline{m}^A$  of  $m^A$  in  $\pi_0(\pi(H))$  is in  $r_{(H,X_H)}(\pi_0(\pi(T_F))) = r_{(H,X_H)}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F))$ .

**Proof.** By the lemma 2.7(c), we have  $p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}(\overline{m}^{n_1}) \in r_{C,\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}(\pi(T_F))$ . Hence, there is an element  $\sigma$  of  $T_F(\mathbb{A})$  and such that

$$p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}(\overline{m}^{n_1}) = r_{C,\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}(\overline{\sigma}).$$

Applying the functor  $\pi_0$  we get

$$\pi_0(p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}})(\pi_0(\overline{m}^{n_1})) = \pi_0(r_{C,\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}})(\pi_0(\overline{\sigma})) = r_{(C,\{x\})}(\pi_0(\overline{\sigma})).$$

The image of  $r_{(C,\{x\})}(\pi_0(\overline{\sigma}))$  in  $\overline{\pi_0}(\pi(C))$  equals the image of  $\pi_0(p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}})(r_{(H,X_H)}(\pi_0(\overline{\sigma})))$  in  $\overline{\pi_0}(\pi(C))$ .

It follows that there exists an element  $y \in H(\mathbb{A})$  such that  $\pi_0(\overline{y})$  is in the kernel of  $\overline{\pi_0}(p_{\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{Q}}) : \pi_0(\pi(H)) \to \overline{\pi_0}(\pi(C))$  such that

$$\pi_0(\overline{m}^{n_1}) = \pi_0(\overline{y})r_{(H,X_H)}(\pi_0(\overline{\sigma})).$$

Let  $A = n_1 n_0$  with  $n_0$  the integer given by the lemma 2.8. By the preceding lemma,

$$\pi_0(\overline{m}^A) = r_{(H,X_H)}(\pi_0(\overline{\sigma}^n)).$$

2.2 Lower bounds for degrees of Galois orbits.

In this section we consider a Shimura datum (G, X) with G semisimple of adjoint type and we let K be a compact open subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . We also fix a faithful rational representation of G. We deal with the problem of bounding (below) the degree of Galois orbits of geometric components of subvarieties of  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$  defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ . We assume that  $K \subset G(\mathbb{A}_f)$  is of the form  $K = \prod_p K_p$  for some compact open subgroups  $K_p$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ .

Recall that we have fixed a faithful representation of G which allows us to view G as a closed subgroup of some  $GL_n$ . We may and do assume that K is contained in  $GL_n(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$ . Let  $\mathbf{K}_3$  be the principal congruence subgroup of level 3 of  $GL_n(\mathbb{Z}_3)$ . We assume that  $K_3$  is contained in  $\mathbf{K}_3$ . Hence  $K_3$  is neat and K is neat (see [12] sec. 4.1.5 and [17] sec. 0.6). All subvarieties are assumed to be closed.

Let M be a projective variety over  $\mathbb{C}$ , Y be an irreducible subvariety of M and  $\mathcal{L}$  be an ample line bundle on M. Then  $\deg_{\mathcal{L}}(Y)$  is the degree of Y computed with respect to  $\mathcal{L}$ . Let  $c_1(\mathcal{L})$  be the first Chern class of  $\mathcal{L}$ . If Y is irreducible of dimension d then  $\deg_{\mathcal{L}}(Y)$  is the intersection number  $c_1(\mathcal{L})^d . Y$  (see [10] chap. 12, p. 211). When Y is reducible, the degree of Y is defined to be the sum of degrees of its irreducible components.

The Baily-Borel compactification of  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$  is denoted  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}_K = \mathcal{L}_K(G,X)$  be the ample line bundle on  $\overline{\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)}$  extending the line bundle of holomorphic differential forms of maximal degree on  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$ . We say that  $\mathcal{L}_K$  is the Baily-Borel line bundle on  $\overline{\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)}$ .

Let Y be a subvariety of  $\overline{\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)}$ , we write  $\deg(Y) = \deg_{\mathcal{L}_K}(Y)$  the degree of Y computed with respect to the Baily-Borel line bundle. Let Z be a subvariety of  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$  and  $\overline{Z}$  be its Zariski closure in  $\overline{\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)}$ , we'll write  $\deg(Z)$  for  $\deg(\overline{Z})$ .

**Definition 2.10** Let Y be a geometrically irreducible subvariety of  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$  defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ . Let F be a number field containing E(G,X). We define the degree of the Galois orbit of Y, denoted  $\operatorname{deg}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y)$  to be the degree of the subvariety  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y$  of  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$  calculated with respect to the line bundle  $\mathcal{L}_K$ .

Let  $(H, X_H)$  be a Shimura subdatum of (G, X) such that H is the generic Mumford-Tate group on  $X_H$ . Let  $K_H = K \cap H(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . Let Y be as above and suppose that Y is the image in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G, X)$  of a geometrically irreducible subvariety  $Y_1$  of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H)$ . Suppose that F contains  $E(H, X_H)$ . We define the internal degree of the Galois orbit of Y to be the degree of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y_1$  calculated with respect to  $\mathcal{L}_{K_H}$ .

Note that when H is a torus (and hence Y is a special point), then  $\deg(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y)$  is simply the number of conjugates of Y under  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)$ .

Let V be a geometric component of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H,X_H)$ . We will use the same notation for V and its image in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G,X)$ . This is justified in view of the lemma 2.2. We recall that T is the connected centre of H. Let  $K_T^m$  be the maximal compact open subgroup of  $T(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . We consider the compact open subgroup  $K_H^m := K_T^m K_H$  of  $H(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . Note that as both  $K_H$  and  $K_T^m$  are products of compact open subgroups of  $H(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ , the group  $K_H^m$  is a product of compact open subgroups  $K_{H,p}^m$  of  $H(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ .

We replace the group  $K_H^m$  by the neat open compact subgroup  $(K_{H,3}^m \cap \mathbf{K}_3) \prod_{p \neq 3} K_{H,p}^m$ . The index of  $K_H^m/K_H$  then changes by a uniformly bounded quantity.

#### Lemma 2.11 The morphism

$$\pi \colon \mathrm{Sh}_{K_H}(H,X_H) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Sh}_{K_H^m}(H,X_H)$$

is finite étale of degree  $|K_H^m/K_H|$ 

Furthermore, there is a constant a independent of  $(H, X_H)$  and K such that

$$|K_H^m/K_H| = a|K_T^m/K_T|$$

**Proof.** Let  $\overline{(x,g)}$  be a point of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H^m}(H,X_H)$ . The preimage of  $\overline{(x,g)}$  is  $\overline{(x,gK_H^m)}$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H,X_H)$ . Suppose

$$\overline{(x,g)} = \overline{(x,gk)}$$

with  $k \in K_H^m$ . There exist q in  $H(\mathbb{Q})$  and  $k' \in K_H$  such that qx = x and g = qgkk'. The first condition implies that q is in a compact subgroup of  $H(\mathbb{R})$  and the second condition implies that q is in the neat compact open subgroup  $gK_H^mg^{-1}$  of  $H(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . These two conditions imply that q is trivial. Therefore  $k = (k')^{-1} \in K_H$ . The preimage of  $\overline{(x,g)}$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H,X_H)$  has a simply transitive action by  $K_H^m/K_H$ . Therefore  $\pi$  is finite étale of degree  $|K_H^m/K_H|$ .

Let  $K_T^{m'} = (K_{T,3}^m \cap \mathbf{K}_3) \prod_{p \neq 3} K_{T,p}^m$ . Then  $K_H^m = K_T^{m'} K_H$ . Therefore  $|K_H^m/K_H| = |K_T^{m'}/K_T|$ . As  $|K_T^m/K_T^{m'}|$  is uniformly bounded, for example by  $|\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_3)|$  the proof of the second claim is obtained.

The next lemma splits the degree of the Galois orbit of Y into two pieces that we will estimate separately.

**Lemma 2.12** Let Y be a geometrically irreducible subvariety of V defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ . The degree of the Galois orbit  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y$  calculated with respect to  $\mathcal{L}_{K_H}$  is at least the degree of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(Y)$  times the number of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)$  conjugates of  $\pi(Y)$ .

**Proof.** For a scheme Z over some base field, Irr(Z) will denote the set of geometrically irreducible components of Z. The cardinality of a finite set  $\Theta$  will be written  $|\Theta|$ . Hence |Irr(Z)| stands for the number of geometrically irreducible components of Z.

We need to check that the degree of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}(\sigma(\pi(Y)))$  with  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)$  is independent of  $\sigma$ .

Let  $\sigma$  be in  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)$ . Note that the group  $K_H^m/K_H$  acts on the right by automorphisms on  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H,X_H)$  and this action permutes transitively the components of the fibre  $\pi^{-1}(\sigma\pi(Y))$ . Moreover for all  $\alpha \in K_T^m/K_T$  we have  $\alpha^*\mathcal{L}_{K_H} = \mathcal{L}_{K_H}$ . By the projection formula, if  $Y_i$  is a component of  $\pi^{-1}(\sigma\pi(Y))$  then  $\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(Y_i) = \deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(\sigma Y)$ .

It follows that

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(\pi^{-1}(\sigma\pi(Y))) = \deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(\sigma Y) \cdot |\mathrm{Irr}(\pi^{-1}(\sigma\pi(Y)))|.$$

Similarly

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_{H}}}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}(\sigma\pi(Y))) = \\ \deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_{H}}}(\sigma Y) \cdot |\operatorname{Irr}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}(\sigma\pi(Y)))|.$$

The proof is finished by noticing that

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(\sigma Y) = \deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(Y)$$

and

$$|\operatorname{Irr}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}(\sigma\pi(Y)))| = |\operatorname{Irr}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(Y))|.$$

We first deal with the second piece. From now on we assume as in the previous section that F is a finite extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  containing  $E(H, X_H)$  of degree over  $\mathbb{Q}$  bounded by R. We assume moreover that F contains the Galois closure of  $E(H, X_H)$ . This will be an harmless assumption in view of the kind of lower bounds for the degrees of the Galois orbits we are aiming to prove.

Let  $K_C^m$  be the maximal open compact subgroup of  $C(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . The number of components of the Galois orbit of  $\pi(V)$  is at least the size of the image of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)$  in  $\overline{\pi_0}(\pi(H))/K_H^m$  by  $r_{(H,X_H)}$  which is at least the size of the image of  $r_{(C,x)}((F \otimes \mathbb{A}_f)^*)$  in  $\overline{\pi_0}(\pi(C))/K_C^m = C(\mathbb{Q})\backslash C(\mathbb{A}_f)/K_C^m$ .

By lemma 2.6,  $X^*(T)$  has a set of generators  $(\chi_1, \ldots, \chi_d)$  such that the coordinates of the  $\chi_i$  in the canonical basis  $(\chi_{\sigma})_{\sigma:F\to\mathbb{C}}$  of  $X^*(T_F)$  are uniformly bounded. By lemma 2.6,  $X^*(C)$  has a set of generators  $(\chi'_1, \ldots, \chi'_{d'})$  such that the coordinates of the  $\chi'_i$  in the canonical basis of  $X^*(T_F)$  are uniformly bounded. As  $(C, \{x\})$  is a Shimura datum of CM type such that the weight homomorphism is trivial (as G is of adjoint type) we see that for all  $i \in \{1, \ldots, d'\}$ ,  $\chi'_i \overline{\chi'_i}$  is the trivial character.

We are therefore in the situation of the theorem 2.13 of [25]. We get the following.

**Proposition 2.13** Assume the GRH for CM fields. Let N be a positive integer. Let  $L_C$  be the splitting field of C. The size of the image of  $r_{(C,\{x\})}((\mathbb{A}_f \otimes L_C)^*)$  in  $C(\mathbb{Q})\backslash C(\mathbb{A}_f)/K_C^m$  is at least a constant depending on N and degree of F over  $\mathbb{Q}$  only times  $(\log|\mathrm{disc}(L_C)|)^N$ .

We claim that  $L_C$  is the Galois closure  $E^c$  of  $E = E(C, \{x\})$ . By definition of the reflex field, E is contained in  $L_C$ . As  $L_C$  is a Galois extension,  $E^c$  is contained in  $L_C$ . Conversely, notice that the reciprocity morphism  $r_{(C,\{x\})} \colon \operatorname{Res}_{E/\mathbb{Q}}\mathbb{G}_{m,E} \longrightarrow C$  is surjective. This is a consequence of the fact that E is the generic Mumford-Tate group on E in This implies that E is contained in the splitting field of  $\operatorname{Res}_{E/\mathbb{Q}}\mathbb{G}_{m,E}$  which is  $E^c$ . As  $E(H,X_H)$  is the composite of E and  $E(H^{ad},X_{H^{ad}})$ , the Galois closure of  $E(H,X_H)$  contains E. We obtain the following consequence of 2.13.

**Proposition 2.14** Assume the GRH for CM fields. Let N be a positive integer. Let  $L_C$  be the splitting field of C. The number of components of  $Gal(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot \pi(V)$  is at least a constant depending on N and the degree of F over  $\mathbb{Q}$  only times  $(\log |\operatorname{disc}(L_C)|)^N$ .

If Y is a geometrically irreducible  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -subvariety Y of V, then the same lower bound holds for the number of components of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot \pi(Y)$ .

The assertion regarding the subvariety Y is the consequence of the fact that, as the conjugates of  $\pi(V)$  are disjoint (they are components of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H^m}(H, X_H)$ ), the subvariety  $\pi(V)$  has at least as many conjugates as  $\pi(V)$ .

Now we deal with the first 'piece': estimating the Galois degree in the fibre over  $\pi(V)$ . We prove the following key proposition.

**Lemma 2.15** Let  $K_T$  be the compact open subgroup  $T(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K$ . The group  $K_T$  is a product of compact open subgroups  $K_{T,p}$  of  $T(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ .

Let  $\Theta_A$  be the image of the morphism  $x \mapsto x^A$  (with A as in 2.9) on  $K_T^m/K_T$ .

We have

$$|\operatorname{Irr}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot V \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(V))| \ge \frac{|\Theta_A|}{|K_T^m/K_T|} |\operatorname{Irr}(\pi^{-1}\pi(V))|.$$

**Proof.** Recall that by the discussion at the beginning of the section 2.1

$$\pi_0(\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H)) = \overline{\pi_0}(\pi(H))/K_H = H(\mathbb{Q})_+ \backslash H(\mathbb{A}_f)/K_H.$$

This is a finite abelian group.

A class  $\overline{\alpha}$  of  $\alpha \in H(\mathbb{A}_f)$  in  $H(\mathbb{Q})_+ \backslash H(\mathbb{A}_f) / K_H$  corresponds to the component  $\overline{X_H^+} \times \{\alpha\}$  which is the image of  $X_H^+ \times \{\alpha\}$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H)$ . The action of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)$  on  $\pi_0(\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H))$  is as follows. By slight abuse of notation,

we denote here  $r_{(H,X_H)}$  the composite of  $r_{(H,X_H)}$ :  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \longrightarrow \overline{\pi_0}(\pi(H))$  with quotient by  $K_H$ . Let  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)$ , and let  $t \in H(\mathbb{A}_f)$  such that  $\overline{t}$  is  $r_{(H,X_H)}(\sigma)$ . Then for any  $\alpha \in H(\mathbb{A}_f)$ ,

$$\sigma(\overline{X_H^+ \times \{\alpha\}}) = \overline{X_H^+ \times \{t\alpha\}} = \overline{X_H^+ \times \{\alpha t\}}.$$

Let  $m \in K_T^m$ , then the image of  $m^A$  in  $\pi_0(\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H))$  is  $r_{(H, X_H)}(\sigma)$  for some  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)$ . It follows that the image of  $\Theta_A$  in  $H(\mathbb{Q})_+ \backslash H(\mathbb{A}_f)/K_H$  is contained in the image of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F)$ . Moreover  $K_T^m/K_T$  acts transitively on  $\operatorname{Irr}(\pi^{-1}\pi(V))$ . For  $X_H^+ \times \{\alpha\} \in \operatorname{Irr}(\pi^{-1}\pi(V))$  and  $K \in K_T^m/K_T$  this action is given by

$$(\overline{X_H^+ \times \{\alpha\}}).k = \overline{X_H^+ \times \{\alpha k\}}.$$

Consequently  $\Theta_A \cdot V \subset \operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot V \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(V)$ . In particular, the number of Galois conjugates of V contained in one fibre is at least the size of the orbit of V under the action of  $\Theta_A$ .

We have

$$|\operatorname{Irr}(\pi^{-1}\pi(V))| = |\operatorname{Irr}((K_T^m/K_T) \cdot V)| \le \frac{|K_T^m/K_T|}{|\Theta_A|} |\operatorname{Irr}(\Theta_A \cdot V)|$$

and

$$|\operatorname{Irr}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot V \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(V))| \ge |\operatorname{Irr}(\Theta_A \cdot V)|.$$

These inequalities put together yield the desired inequality.

**Remark 2.16** Suppose Y is a geometrically irreducible subvariety of V defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  and suppose that  $\Theta_A Y$  is contained in

$$\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(Y).$$

Then the statement and proof of the above lemma applies to Y. We have in this situation:

$$|\operatorname{Irr}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(Y))| \ge \frac{|\Theta_A|}{|K_T^m/K_T|} |\operatorname{Irr}(\pi^{-1}\pi(Y))|.$$

This fact will be used in [12].

**Lemma 2.17** Let Y be a geometrically irreducible subvariety of V, then

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(\pi^{-1}\pi(Y)) \ge |K_H^m/K_H|.$$

**Proof.** Let Z be the fibre  $\pi^{-1}\pi(Y)$  of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H)$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}_{K_H}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{K_H^m}$  be the Baily-Borel line bundles on  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H)$  and  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H^m}(H, X_H)$  respectively. The morphism of Shimura varieties  $\pi \colon \operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H) \longrightarrow \operatorname{Sh}_{K_H^m}(H, X_H)$  extends to a proper morphism

$$\overline{\pi} \colon \overline{\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H}(H, X_H)} \longrightarrow \overline{\operatorname{Sh}_{K_H^m}(H, X_H)}$$

which is generically finite of degree  $|K_H^m/K_H|$  by lemma 2.11. Furthermore  $\pi^*\mathcal{L}_{K_H^m} \cong \mathcal{L}_{K_H}$ . The projection formula gives

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_{H}}}(Z) = \deg_{\pi^{*}\mathcal{L}_{K_{H}^{m}}}(Z) = \deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_{H}^{m}}}(\pi_{*}Z) = [K_{H}^{m}:K_{H}] \deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_{H}^{m}}}(\pi(Z)) \geq [K_{H}^{m}:K_{H}].$$

On another hand, according to [12], cor 5.3.10 we have

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(Z) \le \deg_{\mathcal{L}_K}(Z) = \deg(Z).$$

We deduce that

$$\deg(Z) \ge [K_H^m : K_H].$$

**Lemma 2.18** There is a uniform constant B > 0 such that

$$|\Theta_A| \ge \prod_{\{p: K_{T,p}^m \ne K_{T,p}\}} \max(1, B|K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}|)$$

**Proof.** Since  $K_T^m/K_T$  is the product of the  $K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}$ , the group  $\Theta_A$  is the product

$$\Theta_A = \prod_{\{p:K_{T,p}^m \neq K_{T,p}\}} \Theta_{A,p}$$

where  $\Theta_{A,p}$  is the image of the map  $x \mapsto x^A$  on  $K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}$ . Clearly  $|\Theta_{A,p}| \ge 1$ . Fix a p such that  $K_{T,p}^m \ne K_{T,p}$ . It is enough to prove that the order of the kernel of the A-th power morphism on  $K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}$  is bounded uniformly on T and p.

Let E be the splitting field of T. Notice that the degree of E over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is bounded in terms of the dimension of T, hence uniformly on  $(H, X_H)$ . Using a basis of the character group of T, one can embed T into a product of a finite and uniformly bounded number of tori  $\operatorname{Res}_{E/\mathbb{Q}}\mathbb{G}_{m,E}$ . It follows that  $K_{T,p}^m$  and  $K_{T,p}$  are subgroups of the product of the  $(\mathbb{Z}_p \otimes O_E)^*$ . These groups

are  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -modules of finite type with a set of generators of uniformly bounded cardinality r. Indeed,  $(\mathbb{Z}_p \otimes O_E)^*$  is the direct product of the groups of units of  $E_v$ , completion of E at the place v with v|p. By the local unit theorem (cf [13]), each of these groups of units is a direct product of of the group of roots of unity in  $E_v$  with  $\mathbb{Z}_p^{[E_v \cdot \mathbb{Q}_p]}$ . The number of generators of all these  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -modules are uniformly bounded.

It follows that the group  $K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}$  is a finite abelian group, product of at most r cyclic factors. It follows that the size of the kernel of A-th power map on  $K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}$  is bounded by  $D := A^r$ . We now take  $B := \frac{1}{D}$ .

In the proof of the lemma 2.12, we have seen that

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot V \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(V)) = \deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(V) \cdot |\operatorname{Irr}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot V \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(V))|$$

Lemmas 2.15, 2.17 and 2.18 combined together now give

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot V \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(V)) \ge a \prod_{\{p:K_{T,p}^m \neq K_{T,p}\}} \max(1, B|K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}|).$$

If Y is a geometrically irreducible Hodge generic subvariety of V defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  such that  $\Theta_A Y$  is contained in  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(Y)$ , then using the remark 2.16 we get

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(Y)) \ge a \prod_{\{p:K_{T,p}^m \neq K_{T,p}\}} \max(1, B|K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}|).$$

Putting all the previous ingredients together we get:

**Theorem 2.19** Assume the GRH for CM fields. Let (G, X) be a Shimura datum with G semisimple of adjoint type. Fix positive integers N and R. There exists a positive real number B depending only on G, X and R and a constant  $c_N$  depending only on R and N such that the following holds. Let K be a neat compact open subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$  which is a product of compact open subgroups  $K_p$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . Let  $(H, X_H)$  be a Shimura subdatum of (G, X) such that H is the generic Mumford-Tate group on  $X_H$ . Let F be a finite extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  containing the Galois closure of the reflex field  $E(H, X_H)$  of  $(H, X_H)$  of degree bounded by R. Let  $K_H$  be  $H(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K$ .

Let T be the connected centre of H. We suppose that T is non-trivial and we define  $L_T$  as the splitting field of T (which is equal to  $L_C$  as T and

C are isogeneous). We recall that  $K_T := T(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K$ ,  $K_T^m$  is the maximal open compact subgroup of  $T(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . Then  $K_T = \prod K_{T,p}$  and  $K_T^m = \prod K_{T,p}^m$  with  $K_{T,p} = T(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap K_p$  and  $K_{T,p}^m$  is the maximal open compact subgroup of  $T(\mathbb{A}_f)$ .

Let V be a geometric component of  $Sh_{K_H}(H, X_H)$ .

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot V) \ge c_N \prod_{\{p: K_{T,p}^m \neq K_{T,p}\}} \max(1, B|K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}|) \cdot (\log(|\operatorname{disc}(L_T)|))^N \quad (4)$$

If Y is a geometrically irreducible Hodge generic subvariety of V defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  such that  $\Theta_A Y$  is contained in  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y \cap \pi^{-1}\pi(Y)$  the same holds for Y:

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_{H}}}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/F) \cdot Y) \ge c_{N} \prod_{\{p:K_{T,p}^{m} \neq K_{T,p}\}} \max(1, B|K_{T,p}^{m}/K_{T,p}|) \cdot (\log(|\operatorname{disc}(L_{T})|))^{N}. \quad (5)$$

Remark 2.20 We will only use the more natural formula

$$\deg_{\mathcal{L}_K}(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E(G,X)) \cdot V) \ge c_N \prod_{\{p:K_{T,p}^m \neq K_{T,p}\}} \max(1, B|K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}|) \cdot (\log(|\operatorname{disc}(L_T)|))^N \quad (6)$$

This formula is a consequence of (4) and cor 5.3.10 of [12]) in this text but the more precise statement using the internal degree  $\deg_{\mathcal{L}_{K_H}}$  and the result for Y Hodge generic in V will be useful in the forthcoming paper by Klingler and Yafaev [12]. Note that we have identified Y and V with their images in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G, X)$  using lemma 2.2 in the previous statement.

Note also that if we take F to be the Galois closure of  $E(H, X_H)$  in theorem 2.19 the degree of F over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is uniformly bounded when  $(H, X_H)$  varies by lemma 2.5.

In the case where we consider subvarieties V such that the associated tori T lie in one  $GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$ -conjugacy class with respect to some faithful representation  $G \hookrightarrow GL_n$ , we do not need to assume the GRH. Indeed, in this case

the field  $L_T$  is fixed and hence the term involving it is constant. We only used the GRH to obtain this term.

# 3 Special subvarieties whose degree of Galois orbits are bounded.

### 3.1 Equidistribution of T-special subvarieties.

Let (G, X) be a Shimura datum with G semisimple of adjoint type and let K be an open compact subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . Let  $X^+$  be a connected component of X. In this case (G is semisimple of adjoint type), the stabiliser of  $X^+$  is the neutral component  $G(\mathbb{R})^+$  of  $G(\mathbb{R})$ . We let  $G(\mathbb{Q})^+ = G(\mathbb{R})^+ \cap G(\mathbb{Q})$ . We remark that in this situation  $G(\mathbb{Q})^+ = G(\mathbb{Q})_+$  with our previous notations. Let  $\Gamma = G(\mathbb{Q})^+ \cap K$  and  $S = \Gamma \setminus X^+$  a fixed component of  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G, X)$ . Note that S is the image of  $X^+ \times \{1\}$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G, X)$ .

If  $(H, X_H) \subset (G, X)$  is a Shimura subdatum, we denote by  $\operatorname{MT}(X_H)$  the generic Mumford-Tate group on  $X_H$ . If  $H' = \operatorname{MT}(X_H)$ , then  $H' \subset H$ ,  $H'^{\operatorname{der}} = H^{\operatorname{der}}$  and  $Z(H')^0 \subset Z(H)^0$ . This is a consequence of the proof of [21] lemma 4.1. In the situation of loc. cit. Hodge groups are considered instead of Mumford-Tate groups but the proof can be easily adapted. Fix  $x \in X_H$ . Let  $X_H^+$  be the  $H(\mathbb{R})^+$ -conjugacy class of x and  $X_{H'}^+$  be the  $H'(\mathbb{R})^+$ -conjugacy class of x. Note that as the centre of H (resp. H') acts trivially on x,  $X_H^+$  (resp.  $X_{H'}^+$ ) is also the  $H^{\operatorname{der}}(\mathbb{R})^+$  (resp.  $H'^{\operatorname{der}}(\mathbb{R})^+$ ) conjugacy class of x. As  $H'^{\operatorname{der}}(\mathbb{R})^+ = H^{\operatorname{der}}(\mathbb{R})^+$ ,  $X_{H'}^+ = X_H^+$  and  $(H', X_{H'})$  is a Shimura subdatum of  $(H, X_H)$ .

**Definition 3.1** Let  $T_{\mathbb{Q}}$  be a subtorus of G such that  $T(\mathbb{R})$  is compact. A T-Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  of (G, X) is a Shimura subdatum such that T is the connected center of the generic Mumford-Tate group  $H' = TH^{\text{der}}$  of  $X_H$ . Note that in this definition T may be trivial. In this case the generic Mumford-Tate group H' of  $X_H$  is semisimple.

**Definition 3.2** A T-special subvariety of S is an irreducible component Z of the image of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K\cap H(\mathbb{A}_f)}(H,X_H)$  contained in S for a T-Shimura subdatum  $(H,X_H)\subset (G,X)$ . In this case, we say that Z is associated to  $(H,X_H)$ . A T-special subvariety of S is standard if there exists a T-Shimura subdatum  $(H,X_H)$  of (G,X) and a connected component  $X_H^+$  of  $X_H$  contained in  $X^+$ 

such that Z is the image of  $X_H^+ \times \{1\}$  in S. If Z is standard, then Z is the image of  $(\Gamma \cap H(\mathbb{R})^+) \setminus X_H^+$  in S. We denote by  $\Sigma_T$  the set of T-special subvarieties of S.

**Lemma 3.3** A standard T-special subvariety Z is associated to a Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  such that  $H = \operatorname{MT}(X_H) = T \cdot H^{\operatorname{der}}$ .

**Proof.** If Z is associated to  $(H_1, X_{H_1})$  and Z is standard, then Z is the image of  $X_{H_1}^+ \times \{1\}$  in S for some connected component  $X_{H_1}^+$  of  $X_{H_1}$  contained in  $X^+$ . Write  $H = \mathrm{MT}(X_{H_1})$ , then  $X_H = X_{H_1}$  and Z is also associated to  $(H, X_H)$  and is standard.

**Lemma 3.4** Recall that  $\Sigma_T$  is the set of T-special subvarieties of S. Let  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  and  $T_{\alpha} = \alpha T \alpha^{-1}$ . Then  $\Sigma_{T_{\alpha}} = \Sigma_T$ .

**Proof.** Let  $(H, X_H)$  be a T-Shimura subdatum of (G, X). Fix  $x \in X_H$ . Let  $H_{\alpha} = \alpha H \alpha^{-1}$  and  $X_{H_{\alpha}}$  be the  $H_{\alpha}(\mathbb{R})$ -conjugacy class of  $\alpha.x$ . Then  $(H_{\alpha}, X_{H_{\alpha}})$  is a  $T_{\alpha}$ -Shimura subdatum and the images of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K \cap H(\mathbb{A}_f)}(H, X_H)$  and  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K \cap H_{\alpha}(\mathbb{A}_f)}(H_{\alpha}, X_{H_{\alpha}})$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_K(G, X)$  coincide.

**Lemma 3.5** Let  $\{q_1, \ldots, q_l\}$  be a system of representatives of  $G(\mathbb{Q})^+ \backslash G(\mathbb{Q})$ . Let  $T_{\mathbb{Q}}$  be a subtorus of  $G_{\mathbb{Q}}$  such that  $T(\mathbb{R})$  is compact.

There exists a finite subset  $\{r_1, \ldots, r_k\}$  of  $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$  such that any T-special subvariety of S is a component of the image by the Hecke operator  $T_{q_jr_i}$  of a standard  $(q_jTq_j^{-1})$ -special subvariety of S.

**Proof.** There exist  $r_1, \dots, r_k$  in  $Z_G(T)(\mathbb{A}_f)$  such that we have a finite double coset decomposition

$$Z_G(T)(\mathbb{A}_f) = \bigcup_{i=1}^k Z_G(T)(\mathbb{Q})^+ \cdot r_i \cdot (Z_G(T)(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K).$$

Let Z be a T-special subvariety of S associated to a T-Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  of (G, X). Then Z is the image in S of  $X_H^+ \times \{h\}$  for some  $h \in H(\mathbb{A}_f)$  and for some component  $X_H^+$  of  $X_H$ .

By definition of a T-Shimura subdatum,  $T \subset Z(H)$  (where Z(H) is the centre of H) and therefore  $H \subset Z_G(T)$ .

We can find  $z \in Z_G(T)(\mathbb{Q})^+$ ,  $k \in Z_G(T)(\mathbb{A}_f) \cap K$  and  $i \in \{1, \ldots, k\}$  such that  $h = zr_i k$ . Therefore Z is in the image of  $z^{-1}.X_H^+ \times \{r_i\}$  in S.

Fix  $x \in X_H^+$ , as  $G(\mathbb{Q})$  is Zariski dense in  $G(\mathbb{R})$  there exists a  $j \in \{1, \ldots, l\}$  such that  $q_j z^{-1} . x \in X^+$ .

Define  $H_{z,j} := q_j z^{-1} H z q_j^{-1}$  and  $X_{H_{z,j}} := H_{z,j}(\mathbb{R}) \cdot (q_j z^{-1}.x)$ . Then  $(H_{z,j}, X_{H_{z,j}})$  is a Shimura subdatum of (G, X). The generic Mumford-Tate group of  $X_{H_{z,j}}$  is

$$MT(X_{H_{z,j}}) = q_j z^{-1} MT(X_H) z q_j^{-1} = q_j z^{-1} (TH^{der}) z q_j^{-1} = q_j T q_j^{-1} . H_{z,j}^{der}$$

Therefore  $(H_{z,j}, X_{H_{z,j}})$  is a  $(q_j T q_j^{-1})$ -Shimura subdatum.

Note that  $q_j z^{-1} X_H^+$  is a connected component  $X_{H_{z,j}}^+$  of  $X_{H_{z,j}}$  such that  $X_{H_{z,j}}^+ \subset X^+$ . Let  $Z_0$  be the image of  $X_{H_{z,j}}^+ \times \{1\}$  in S. Then  $Z_0$  is a standard  $(q_j T q_j^{-1})$ -special subvariety associated to  $(H_{z,j}, X_{H_{z,j}})$ . This finishes the proof as Z is a component of  $T_{q_j r_j} Z_0$ .

Let  $(H, X_H)$  be a T-Shimura subdatum of (G, X). Our next task will be to construct a T-special Shimura subdatum  $(L, X_L)$  of (G, X) maximal amongst T-Shimura subdata of (G, X) containing  $(H, X_H)$ . Our construction will show that L depends only on T and not on  $(H, X_H)$ .

The algebraic group  $Z_G(T)$  is reductive and connected as the centraliser of a torus. Let

$$Z_G(T) = \tilde{T}L_1 \dots L_r$$

be the decomposition of  $Z_G(T)$  as an almost direct product of the connected centre  $\widetilde{T}$  of  $Z_G(T)$  and a product of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -simple factors  $Z_G(T)^{\text{der}}$ .

Let  $L = \widetilde{T}L_1 \dots L_s$  be the almost direct product in G of  $\widetilde{T}$  and of the  $L_i$ 's such that  $L_i(\mathbb{R})$  is not compact. Then

$$H \subset Z_G(T) = Z_G(\widetilde{T}).$$

Let

$$(L')^c = Z_G(T)/L$$

and  $p: Z_G(T) \to (L')^c$  be the associated projection. Then  $(L')^c(\mathbb{R})$  is compact. As the almost  $\mathbb{Q}$ -simple factors  $H_k$  of  $H^{\mathrm{der}}$  are such that  $H_k(\mathbb{R})$  are not compact, their projections by p on  $(L')^c$  are trivial. We deduce from this that  $H \subset L$ . Let  $X_L$  be the  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -conjugacy class of some  $x \in X_H$ .

**Lemma 3.6** The pair  $(L, X_L)$  is a T-Shimura subdatum such that

$$(H, X_H) \subset (L, X_L).$$

**Proof.** The proof of ([3] proposition 3.2) shows that  $(L, X_L)$  is a Shimura datum. As H is contained in L,  $(H, X_H) \subset (L, X_L)$ . We write  $H' = \text{MT}(X_H)$  and  $L' = \text{MT}(X_L)$ . We have an inclusion of Shimura subdata

$$(H', X_H) \subset (L', X_L).$$

By definition  $T = Z(H')^0 \subset L'$  and T commutes with L', therefore  $T \subset Z(L')^0$ . Fix  $x \in X_H$ , then  $X_L$  is the  $L^{\operatorname{der}}(\mathbb{R})$ -conjugacy-class of x. By definition of the generic Mumford-Tate group of  $X_H$  we know that

$$x(\mathbb{S})(\mathbb{R}) \subset (T.H^{\mathrm{der}})(\mathbb{R}) \subset (T.L^{\mathrm{der}})(\mathbb{R}).$$

We then see that for any  $y \in X_L$  we have

$$y(\mathbb{S})(\mathbb{R}) \subset (T.L^{\mathrm{der}})(\mathbb{R}).$$

Therefore  $L' = \operatorname{MT}(X_L) \subset T.L^{\operatorname{der}}$  and  $Z(L')^0 \subset T$ . Finally  $T = Z(L')^0$  and  $(L, X_L)$  is a T-Shimura subdatum.

The following lemma will be useful later.

**Lemma 3.7** Let  $(M, X_M)$  be a Shimura subdatum of (G, X). Then there exist at most finitely many Y such that (M, Y) is a Shimura subdatum of (G, X). Moreover as M varies among the reductive subgroups of G the number of Y is uniformly bounded.

**Proof.** Let  $X_{1,M}$  and  $X_{2,M}$  such that  $(M, X_{1,M})$  and  $(M, X_{2,M})$  are Shimura subdata of (G, X). Fix  $x_i \in X_{i,M}$  and  $\alpha \in G(\mathbb{R})$  such that

$$x_2 = \alpha.x_1 = \alpha x_1 \alpha^{-1}.$$

Let  $K_i = Z_G(x_i(\sqrt{-1}))(\mathbb{R})$  the associated maximal compacts of  $G(\mathbb{R})$ . We have the Cartan decompositions:

$$G(\mathbb{R}) = P_1 K_1 = P_2 K_2$$
 and  $M(\mathbb{R}) = (P_1 \cap M) \cdot (K_1 \cap M) = (P_2 \cap M) \cdot (K_2 \cap M)$ .

We then have  $K_2 = \alpha K_1 \alpha^{-1}$  and  $P_2 = \alpha P_1 \alpha^{-1}$ . As the Cartan decompositions are conjugate in  $M(\mathbb{R})$ , there exists  $h \in M(\mathbb{R})$  such that

$$K_2 \cap M = h(K_1 \cap M)h^{-1}$$
 and  $P_2 \cap M = h(P_1 \cap M)h^{-1}$ .

Let  $\gamma = h^{-1}\alpha = p.k$  with  $p \in P_1$  and  $k \in K_1$ . Then

$$(\star)$$
  $K_1 \cap M = pK_1p^{-1} \cap M$  and  $P_1 \cap M = pP_1p^{-1} \cap M$ .

By ([21] lemma 3.11) we have the following:

- 1. Let p, q and r be elements of  $P_1$  such that  $pqp^{-1} = r$  then  $p^2q = qp^2$ .
- 2. Let  $p \in P_1$  and  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  be elements of  $K_1$  such that  $pk_1p^{-1} = k_2$  then  $p^2k_1 = k_1p^2$ .

Then  $(\star)$  and (1) implies that  $p^2 \in Z_G(P_1 \cap M)(\mathbb{R})$  and  $(\star)$  and (2) implies that  $p^2 \in Z_G(K_1 \cap M)(\mathbb{R})$ . We then find that

$$p^2 \in Z_G(M)(\mathbb{R}) \subset Z_G(x_1(\sqrt{-1}))(\mathbb{R}) = K_1$$

so  $p^2 \in P_1 \cap K_1$  is trivial and p = 1.

We now know that  $\alpha = h\gamma$  with  $h \in M(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\gamma \in K_1$ . Fix a set of representatives  $\{\gamma_1, \ldots, \gamma_r\}$  in  $K_1$  of  $K_1/K_1^+$ . As  $K_1^+$  fixes  $x_1$  we obtain that  $\gamma_i.x_1 \in X_{2,M}$  for some  $i \in \{1, \ldots, r\}$ . This finishes the proof of the lemma.  $\square$ 

**Theorem 3.8** Fix a subtorus  $T_{\mathbb{Q}}$  of G with  $T(\mathbb{R})$  compact. Let  $(Z_n)$  be a sequence of T-special subvarieties of S. Let  $(\mu_n) := (\mu_{Z_n})$  be the associated sequence of probability measures. There exists a T-special subvariety Z of S and a subsequence  $(Z_{n_k})$  such that  $(\mu_{n_k})$  converges weakly to  $\mu_Z$ . Moreover Z contains  $Z_{n_k}$  for all k large enough.

**Proof.** We first give the proof assuming that  $Z_n$  is a sequence of standard T-special subvariety of S associated to a T-special Shimura subdatum  $(H_n, X_n)$  of (G, X) with  $H_n = \operatorname{MT}(X_n) = TH_n^{\operatorname{der}}$ . Using the lemmas 3.7 and 3.6 we may assume that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(H_n, X_n)$  is a Shimura subdatum of the T-special Shimura datum  $(L, X_L)$ .

Therefore we may assume that  $(Z_n)$  is contained in a fixed component  $S_L$  of  $\operatorname{Sh}_{L(\mathbb{A}_f)\cap K}(L,X_L)$ . Then  $(Z_n)$  is a sequence of strongly special subvarieties of  $S_L$  in the sense of [3] 4.1. Let  $(L^{\operatorname{ad}},X_{L^{\operatorname{ad}}})$  be the adjoint Shimura datum and  $K_L^{\operatorname{ad}}$  a compact open subgroup containing the image of  $L(\mathbb{A}_f)\cap K$  in  $L^{\operatorname{ad}}(\mathbb{A}_f)$ . We recall that  $Z_n$  is a strongly special subvariety of  $S_L$  if and only if its image  $Z_n^{\operatorname{ad}}$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_{K_L^{\operatorname{ad}}}(L^{\operatorname{ad}},X_{L^{\operatorname{ad}}})$  is strongly special. As T is the connected center of  $H_n$  and T is contained in the center of L we see that  $Z_n^{\operatorname{ad}}$  is defined by a Shimura subdatum  $(H'_n, X'_n)$  of  $(L^{\operatorname{ad}}, X_{L^{\operatorname{ad}}})$  with  $H'_n$  semisimple and that  $Z_n^{\operatorname{ad}}$  is strongly special.

Note that the condition (b) in the definition of "strongly special" ([3] 4.1) is in fact implied by the first: let  $(F, X_F)$  be a Shimura subdatum of an adjoint Shimura datum (G, X) with F semisimple. Let  $\alpha : \mathbb{S} \to F_{\mathbb{R}}$ 

be a element of  $X_F$  and  $K_\alpha = Z_G(\alpha(\sqrt{-1}))$  be the associated maximal compact subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{R})$ . Then  $Z_G(F)(\mathbb{R}) \subset Z_G(\alpha(\sqrt{-1}))$  is compact. Therefore  $Z_G(F)$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -anisotropic (even  $\mathbb{R}$ -anisotropic) and  $(F, X_F)$  satisfies the condition (b") of ([3] 4.1) which is equivalent to the condition (b).

The theorem 4.6 of [3] proves that, after possibly having replaced  $(Z_n)$  by a subsequence, there exists a special subvariety  $Z \subset S_L$  such that  $(\mu_{Z_n})$  converges weakly to  $\mu_Z$  and  $Z_n \subset Z$  for all  $n \gg 0$ . We can find a Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  associated to Z such that for any n large enough the following inclusions of Shimura data hold:

$$(H_n, X_n) \subset (H, X_H) \subset (L, X_L)$$

We once again write  $L' = MT(X_L)$  and  $H' = MT(X_H)$ . Then

$$(H_n, X_n) \subset (H', X_H) \subset (L', X_L)$$

By following the proof of the Lemma 3.6 we deduce that  $Z(H')^0 = Z(H_n)^0 = Z(L')^0$  for every n large enough and consequently Z is a T-special subvariety.

This finishes the proof assuming the  $Z_n$  are standard T-special subvarieties of S. Without this assumption, using the lemmas 3.5 and 3.3 we may assume that there exists  $q \in G(\mathbb{Q})$ ,  $\theta \in G(\mathbb{A}_f)$  and a sequence of  $(qTq^{-1})$ -special Shimura subdata  $(H'_n, X'_n)$  of (G, X) with  $H'_n = \operatorname{MT}(X'_n)$  with the following property. There exists a sequence of standard  $(q^{-1}Tq)$ -special subvarieties  $Z'_n$  (with  $Z'_n$  the image of  $X'^+_n \times \{1\}$  in S for some component  $X'^+_n$  of  $X'_n$ ) such that  $Z_n$  is the image of  $X'^+_n \times \{\theta\}$  in S. Let  $\mu'_n := \mu_{Z'_n}$  be the associated sequence of probability measures. Then the weak convergence of  $\mu_n$  to  $\mu_Z$  for some special subvariety containing  $Z_n$  for n big enough are deduced from the corresponding weak convergence of  $\mu'_n$  to  $\mu_{Z'}$  for some special subvariety Z' containing the  $Z'_n$  for  $n \gg 0$ . The reader may check that the proof given previously guarantees that Z is T-special.

A formal consequence of theorem 3.8 is the following result.

Corollary 3.9 Let  $(Z_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of T-special subvarieties of S and Z be a component of the Zariski closure  $\overline{\bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}}Z_n}$  of  $\bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}}Z_n$ . Then Z is T-special.

**Proof.** Let  $I_Z := \{n \in \mathbb{N}, Z_n \subset Z\}$ . Then formal properties of the Zariski topology show that  $\bigcup_{n \in I_Z} Z_n$  is Zariski dense in Z. If there exists  $n \in I_Z$ 

such that  $Z_n=Z$ , then Z is T-special, otherwise  $I_Z$  is infinite. Passing to a subsequence we may and do assume that for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}, Z_n\subset Z$ . As  $Z_n$  is defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  for all n we see that Z is defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ . As Z has only countably many subvarieties defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ , using a diagonal process and passing to a subsequence we may assume that  $(Z_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a "generic sequence" of Z: for any subvariety Y of Z with  $Y\neq Z$  the set  $I_Y:=\{n\in\mathbb{N}, Z_n\subset Y\}$  is finite. In particular for any subsequence  $(Z_{n_k})_{k\in\mathbb{N}}$  of  $(Z_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  we have  $\overline{\bigcup_{k\in\mathbb{N}}Z_{n_k}}=Z$ .

Moreover using theorem 3.8 and passing to a subsequence we may and do assume that there exists a T-special subvariety Z' of S such that  $\mu_{Z_n}$  converges weakly to  $\mu_{Z'}$  and for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $Z_n \subset Z'$ . As  $(Z_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is generic in Z we get  $Z = \overline{\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} Z_n} \subset Z'$ . As Z is closed and as for all n,  $\operatorname{Supp}(\mu_{Z_n}) \subset Z$  we get using the weak convergence of  $(\mu_{Z_n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  to  $\mu_{Z'}$  that  $Z' = \operatorname{Supp}(\mu_{Z'}) \subset Z$ . Therefore Z = Z' is a T-special subvariety of S.

## 3.2 Special subvarieties whose Galois orbits have bounded degrees.

Let (G,X),  $X^+$ ,  $\Gamma$  and S be as in the previous section. We recall that we have fixed a faithful representation  $G \subset \operatorname{GL}(V_{\mathbb{Q}})$  on a n dimensional  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space  $V_{\mathbb{Q}}$ . We fix a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$  and an isomorphism  $V_{\mathbb{Z}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}^n$  such that  $K \subset \operatorname{GL}_n(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$ . Moreover we assume, as in the previous section, that  $K = \prod_p K_p$  and that K is neat. For any algebraic subgroup H of G, we let  $H_{\mathbb{Z}}$  (resp.  $H_{\mathbb{Z}_p}$ ) be the Zariski-closure of H in  $\operatorname{GL}_{n,\mathbb{Z}} = \operatorname{GL}(V_{\mathbb{Z}})$  (resp.  $\operatorname{GL}_{n,\mathbb{Z}_p} = \operatorname{GL}(V_{\mathbb{Z}_p})$ ).

The aim of this section is to prove the following theorem which provides a justification for the seemingly unnatural definition of T-special subvarieties. This result is used crucially in [12] in the proof of the André-Oort conjecture under the GRH.

**Theorem 3.10** Assume the GRH for CM fields. Let M be an integer. There exists a finite set  $\{T_1, \ldots, T_r\}$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -tori of G such that each  $T_i(\mathbb{R})$  is compact and having the following property. Let Z be a special subvariety of S defined by the Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  (with H being the generic Mumford-Tate group on  $X_H$ ) such that, with notations of 2.19

$$\max(1, B^{i(T)}|K_T^m/K_T|)\log|\operatorname{disc}(L_T)| \le M.$$

In this last formula we wrote i(T) for the cardinality of the set of primes p such that  $K_{T,p}^m \neq K_{T,p}$ .

Then Z is a  $T_i$ -special subvariety for some  $i \in \{1, ..., r\}$ .

Corollary 3.11 Assume the GRH for CM fields and let M be an integer. There exists a finite set  $\{T_1, \ldots, T_r\}$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -tori of G with the following property. Let Z be a special subvariety of S. If the degree of  $\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E(G,X)) \cdot Z$  is at most M, then Z is a  $T_i$ -special subvariety for some  $i \in \{1, \ldots, r\}$ .

**Proof.** Let Z be a special subvariety of S such that  $\deg(\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E(G,X)).Z)$  is bounded by M. By 2.19, both  $\max(1, B^{i(T)}|K_T^m/K_T|)$  and  $\log(|\operatorname{disc}(L_T)|)$  are bounded. The conclusion then follows from the theorem 3.10.

Corollary 3.12 Assume the GRH for CM fields. Let  $\Sigma = \{x_i\}$  be an infinite sequence of special points. Then the size  $|\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E(G,X)) \cdot x_i|$  of the Galois orbit of  $x_i$  is unbounded as  $x_i$  ranges through  $\Sigma$ .

**Proof.** When x is a special point, the degree of its Galois orbit is just its size. Suppose that  $|\operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/E(G,X)) \cdot x_i|$  was bounded by an integer M. Then, by 3.11, each  $x_i$  would be  $T_j$ -special for some  $j \in \{1, \ldots, r\}$ . But, for a fixed torus T with  $T(\mathbb{R})$  compact, there are only finitely many T-special points. Hence  $\Sigma$  is finite. This contradicts the definition of  $\Sigma$  thus proving the corollary.

We now proceed to prove the theorem 3.10. Let now  $\Sigma_M$  be the set of special subvarieties Z such that  $\max(1, B^{i(T)}|K_T^m/K_T|)\log|\operatorname{disc}(L_T)| \leq M$ . Then both  $\max(1, B^{i(T)}|K_T^m/K_T|)$  and  $|\operatorname{disc}(L_T)|$  are bounded. Let  $C \simeq H/H^{\operatorname{der}}$  and let  $L_C$  be the splitting field of C. The discriminant  $|\operatorname{disc}(L_C)| = |\operatorname{disc}(L_T)|$  is bounded when Z varies in  $\Sigma_M$ . To prove the theorem 3.10, it suffices to consider the set of  $Z \in \Sigma_M$  such that the corresponding  $L_C$  is fixed.

**Lemma 3.13** (i) Let  $E_0$  be a number field. Let  $\mathbb{T}_{E_0}$  be the set of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -tori T of G such that there exists a Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  of (G, X) with  $H = \mathrm{MT}(X_H)$  such that T is the connected centre of H and such that the splitting field of T is  $E_0$ . Then  $\mathbb{T}_{E_0}$  is contained in a finite union of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q})$ -conjugacy classes.

(ii) Let M be an integer. Let  $\mathbb{T}_M$  be the set of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -tori T of G such that there exists  $Z \in \Sigma_M$  associated with a Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  of (G, X) such that  $T = Z(\mathrm{MT}(X_H))^0$ . Then  $\mathbb{T}_M$  is contained in a finite union of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q})$ -conjugacy classes.

**Proof.** The assumption of part (ii) of this lemma implies that the discriminant of  $L_T$  is bounded. For the purposes of proving part (ii) of the lemma we may assume that  $L_T$  is fixed. As  $L_T$  is the splitting field of T we see that part (ii) is a consequence of part (i) of the lemma.

We write  $L_T = E_0$  for the coherence of the notations. Therefore we can assume that the torus  $L := \operatorname{Res}_{L_T/\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{G}_m$  is fixed. As before, we identify  $X^*(T)$  with a submodule of  $X^*(L)$  via a "lifting"  $r_T$  of the reciprocity  $r_{(C,\{x\})}$ . By the lemma 2.6, there is only a finite number of possibilities for the set of characters of L occurring in the representations  $r_T : L \to T \subset \operatorname{GL}_n$ . Let us fix such a set  $\mathcal{X}$  of characters of L and write

$$V_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}} = \bigoplus_{\chi \in \mathcal{X}} V_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}, \chi}$$

for the corresponding decomposition of  $V_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}$  such that for all  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$   $\sigma(V_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}},\chi}) = V_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}},\chi^{\sigma}}$ . Here the  $V_{\chi}$ 's are  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -vector subspaces of  $V_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}$  and we can assume that their dimensions are fixed when T varies in  $\mathbb{T}_{L_T}$ .

It follows that the isomorphism class of the representation of the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -torus L on V is fixed. Therefore the morphism  $r_T$  is contained in a  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q})$ -conjugacy class. This finishes the proof of the lemma as  $T = r_T(L)$ .

The part (i) of the previous lemma will not be used in this text but will play a role in [12]. We need in fact the following more precise result than part (ii) of lemma 3.13:

**Proposition 3.14** The set  $\mathbb{T}_M$  is contained in a finite union of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ -conjugacy classes.

We'll need a weak version of the following result for the proof of the proposition 3.14 but its full strength will be used in [12].

**Proposition 3.15** There exists a positive constant c with the following property. Let  $(H, X_H)$  be a Shimura subdatum of (G, X). Let T be the connected centre of H. Let  $L_T = L_C$  be the splitting field of T. Let p be a prime which is unramified in  $L_T$  and such that  $K_p = \operatorname{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}_p) \cap G(\mathbb{Q})$ . Assume that

$$K_{T,p} := T(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap K \neq K_{T,p}^m$$
.

Then

$$|K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}| \ge cp. (7)$$

**Proof.** This statement is a variant of the proposition 4.3.9 of [9]. We need to check that the proof can be adapted in our situation.

**Lemma 3.16** The set  $\mathbb{T}(G)$  of tori T in G occurring as the connected centre of a reductive subgroup H of G such that there exists a Shimura subdatum  $(H, X_H)$  of (G, X) is contained in a finite union of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$ -conjugacy classes.

**Proof.** By the discussion before the lemma 2.6 we may assume that there exists a finite Galois extension F of  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that the isomorphism class  $\Delta$  of  $\operatorname{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q})$  is fixed as an abstract group and a surjective map of tori

$$r_T: T_F = \mathrm{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{G}_{m,F} \to T$$

obtained as a lifting of a uniformly bounded power of the reciprocity morphism  $r_{(C,\{x\})}$ . Then  $X^*(T_F)$  has a canonical basis  $\mathcal B$  indexed by the elements of  $\Delta$ . Let r be the cardinality of  $\Delta$ . We can therefore find a  $\overline{\mathbb Q}$ -isomorphism  $\mathbb G^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb Q}}\simeq T_{F,\overline{\mathbb Q}}$  such that the induced map  $X^*(T_{F,\overline{\mathbb Q}})\to X^*(\mathbb G^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb Q}})$  transforms the canonical basis  $\mathcal B$  of  $X^*(T_{F,\overline{\mathbb Q}})$  into the canonical basis of  $\mathbb Z^r=X^*(\mathbb G^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb Q}})$ . We end up with a representation

$$r_{T,\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}: \mathbb{G}^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb{Q}}} \to T_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}} \subset \mathrm{GL}_{n,\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}$$

of the torus  $\mathbb{G}^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}$ . Using the lemma 2.6 we see that we may assume that the set of characters of  $\mathbb{G}^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}$  and their multiplicities occurring in the representation  $r_{T,\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}$  are fixed. As a consequence the  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism class of the representation  $r_{T,\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}$  is fixed. As  $T_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}} = r_{T,\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}(\mathbb{G}^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb{Q}}})$  we see that the tori  $T \in \mathbb{T}(G)$  are contained in a finite union of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$ -conjugacy classes.  $\square$ 

**Lemma 3.17** Let T be a torus in  $\mathbb{T}(G)$ . Let  $r_T: T_F \to T$  be as previously. Let p be a prime which is unramified in F.

Then there exists  $\alpha \in GL_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  such that the Zariski closure of  $T_\alpha := \alpha T \alpha^{-1}$  then in  $GL_{n,\mathbb{Z}_p}$  is a torus  $T_{\alpha,\mathbb{Z}_p}$ . In this situation  $K_{T_\alpha,p} = T_\alpha(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap GL_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is the maximal compact open subgroup  $K_{T_\alpha,p}^m$  of  $T_\alpha(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ .

**Proof.** We first recall the following facts about models of tori over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  mainly due to Tits in the general context of reductive groups.

Let  $\Lambda$  be a torus in  $GL_{n,\mathbb{Q}_p}$  and  $\Lambda_{\mathbb{Z}_p}$  be its Zariski closure in  $GL_{n,\mathbb{Z}_p}$ . Then  $K_{\Lambda,p} := \Lambda(\mathbb{Z}_p) = \Lambda(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap GL_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is a compact open subgroup of  $\Lambda(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . If

 $\Lambda_{\mathbb{Z}_p}$  is a torus, then  $K_{\Lambda,p} = \Lambda(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is the maximal hyperspecial subgroup  $K_{\Lambda,p}^m$  of  $\Lambda(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  ([19], 3.8.1). Conversely if  $K_{\Lambda,p}^m = K_{\Lambda,p}$  is a maximal hyperspecial subgroup of  $\Lambda(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  then  $\Lambda_{\mathbb{Z}_p}$  is a torus over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  ([19], 3.8.1). Note also that if the splitting field of  $\Lambda$  is an unramified extension of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  then  $K_{\Lambda,p}^m$  is a hyperspecial subgroup of  $\Lambda(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  ([19], 3.8.2).

As p is unramified in F and as  $r_T: T_F \to T$  is surjective, then p is unramified in the splitting field of T. The maximal open compact subgroups of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  are conjugate under  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  and any compact subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  is contained in a maximal open compact subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  (see [18] 3.3 p. 134). Therefore there exists a maximal compact open subgroup  $\alpha^{-1}\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)\alpha$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  for some  $\alpha \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  such that  $T(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap \alpha^{-1}\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)\alpha = K_{T,p}^m$ . Let  $T_\alpha = \alpha T \alpha^{-1}$ , and  $T_{\alpha,\mathbb{Z}_p}$  its Zariski closure. Then  $T_\alpha(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is the maximal compact subgroup of  $T_\alpha(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  and is hyperspecial. The previous discussion shows that  $T_{\alpha,\mathbb{Z}_p}$  is a torus.

We may now prove the proposition 3.15 Let p be a prime which is unramified in F. Let

$$r_{\alpha}: T_{F,\mathbb{O}_n} \longrightarrow T_{\alpha}$$

be the map  $r_{\alpha} = \alpha r_{T} \alpha^{-1}$ . The torus  $T_{F,\mathbb{Q}_{p}}$  is the generic fiber of a torus  $T_{F,\mathbb{Z}_{p}}$  over  $\mathbb{Z}_{p}$  (see [23], 10.3 thm 2) and the map  $r_{\alpha}$  extends uniquely over  $\mathbb{Z}_{p}$  as a map of algebraic tori

$$r_{\alpha,\mathbb{Z}_p}: T_{F,\mathbb{Z}_p} \longrightarrow T_{\alpha,\mathbb{Z}_p} \subset \mathrm{GL}_{n,\mathbb{Z}_p} = \mathrm{GL}(V_{\mathbb{Z}_p}).$$

Taking the special fibers we get over the residue field  $\mathbb{F}_p$  of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  a map

$$r_{\alpha,\mathbb{F}_p}: T_{F,\mathbb{F}_p} \longrightarrow T_{\alpha,\mathbb{F}_p} \subset \mathrm{GL}_{n,\mathbb{F}_p} = \mathrm{GL}(V_{\mathbb{F}_p}).$$

Passing to the algebraic closure  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$  of  $\mathbb{F}_p$  we get a map

$$r_{\alpha,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}:T_{F,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}\longrightarrow T_{\alpha,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}\subset \mathrm{GL}_{n,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}=\mathrm{GL}(V_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}).$$

Using the lemma 4.1 of Exposé X of [6], we see that there is a canonical isomorphism between  $X^*(T_{F,\mathbb{F}_p})$  and  $X^*(T_F)$  and by our previous discussion we get a canonical basis  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $X^*(T_{F,\mathbb{F}_p})$ . As in the proof of the lemma 3.16 we have an isomorphism of tori over  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$  between  $\mathbb{G}^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p} \simeq T_{F,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$  such that the associate map on the character groups send the canonical basis  $\mathcal{B}$  on the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{Z}^n = X^*(\mathbb{G}^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p})$ . Composing this isomorphism with  $r_{\alpha,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$  we end up with a representation

$$r_{\alpha,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}:\mathbb{G}^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}\longrightarrow T_{\alpha,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}\subset \mathrm{GL}_{n,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}=\mathrm{GL}(V_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}).$$

Using the lemma 2.6 as in the proof of the lemma 3.16 we may assume that the characters of  $\mathbb{G}^r_{m,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$  and their multiplicities in the representation  $r_{\alpha,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$  are fixed.

By the lemma 4.4.1 of [9] there is a positive integer  $C_1$  independent of  $(H,X_H)$  and p such that for all subspaces W of  $V_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$  the group of connected components of the stabiliser of W in  $\mathbb{G}_{m\overline{\mathbb{F}}_n}^r$  is of order bounded by  $C_1$ . As the map  $r_{\alpha,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$  is surjective, the group of connected components of the stabiliser of W in  $T_{\alpha,\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$  is also of cardinality uniformly bounded by  $C_1$ .

Assume now that  $K_p = G(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap \operatorname{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ , then  $K_{T,p} = T(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap \operatorname{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .

If  $K_{T,p} \neq K_{T,p}^m$  the Zariski closure  $T_{\mathbb{Z}_p}$  of  $T_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$  in  $\mathrm{GL}_{n,\mathbb{Z}_p}$  is not a torus. The conjugation morphism  $x \mapsto \alpha x \alpha^{-1}$  establishes a bijection between  $K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}$  and  $K_{T_{\alpha},p}^m/T_{\alpha}(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap \alpha \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)\alpha^{-1}$  where  $K_{T_{\alpha},p}^m$  is the maximal compact open subgroup of  $T_{\alpha}(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . This last index is the size of the orbit  $T_{\alpha}(\mathbb{Z}_p) \cdot \alpha \mathbb{Z}_p^n$ . The fact that the Zariski closure  $T_{\mathbb{Z}_p}$  of  $T_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$  in  $GL_{n,\mathbb{Z}_p}$  is not a torus implies that  $T_{\alpha,\mathbb{Z}_p}$  does not fix the lattice  $\alpha\mathbb{Z}_p^n$  in the sense of [9], section 3.3.

In view of the previous result on the size of the group of connected components of stabilisers of subspaces of  $V_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$  the proof of the proposition 4.3.9 of [9] implies that this index is at least a uniform constant times p.

Fix a torus  $T_0 \in \mathbb{T}_M$  and let  $\mathcal{D}(T_0)$  be the set of tori in G contained in the  $GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$ -conjugacy class of  $T_0$ . To prove the proposition 3.14, we will analyse the variation of  $B^{i(T)} \cdot |K_T^m/K_T|$  as T ranges through  $\mathcal{D}(T_0)$ .

**Lemma 3.18** For all  $T \in \mathcal{D}(T_0)$  we have the lower bound

$$\prod_{\{p:K_{T,p}^m \neq K_{T,p}\}} \max(1, B|K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}|) \gg \prod_{\{p:K_{T,p}^m \neq K_{T,p}\}} cp$$

where c is a uniform constant.

Let M be an integer. There exists an integer  $C_0 > 0$  such that the following holds. Let  $S_0$  be the set of primes  $p < C_0$  and let  $\mathbb{Z}_{S_0}$  be the ring of  $S_0$ -integers. The set  $\mathcal{D}(T_0) \cap \mathbb{T}_M$  is contained in a finite union of  $GL_n(\mathbb{Z}_{S_0})$ conjugacy classes.

**Proof.** Let p be a prime such that p is unramified in  $L_T$ , such that  $K_p$  is  $G(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  for the  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -structure given by our fixed representation of G and such that  $T_{0,\mathbb{Z}_p}$  is a torus. These conditions are verified for almost all p.

Let  $T \in \mathcal{D}(T_0)$  be such that  $K_{T,p}^m \neq K_{T,p}$ . By the proposition 3.15, we have the lower bound

$$|K_{T,n}^m/K_{T,p}| \ge cp.$$

Therefore, there exists an integer  $C_0$  such that for all  $T \in \mathcal{D}(T_0) \cap \mathbb{T}_M$  and all primes  $p > C_0$ ,  $K_{T,p} = K_{T,p}^m$  and  $K_{T,p}^m$  is hyperspecial. Let  $T \in \mathcal{D}(T_0) \cap \mathbb{T}_M$  and  $p > C_0$ , then  $T_{\mathbb{Z}_p}$  is a torus.

Let  $g \in GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$  such that  $T = gT_0g^{-1}$ . The previous discussion shows that  $T_{0,\mathbb{Z}_p}$  fixes the lattice  $g\mathbb{Z}_p^n$ . By ([9] lemma 3.3.1), there exists  $c \in Z_{GL_n}(T)(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  and  $\alpha_p \in GL_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  such that  $g_p = c\alpha_p$ . Therefore  $T_{\mathbb{Z}_p} = \alpha_p T_{0,\mathbb{Z}_p} \alpha_p^{-1}$  for some  $\alpha_p \in GL_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .

By the Corollary 6.4 of [11] the set  $\mathcal{D}(T_0) \cap \mathbb{T}_M$  is contained in finitely many  $GL_n(\mathbb{Z}_{S_0})$ -conjugacy classes.

The proposition 3.14 will follow from the following proposition whose proof was communicated to us by Laurent Clozel.

**Proposition 3.19** (Clozel) Let G be a reductive group over  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ ,  $T \subset G$  a non trivial torus and let  $H = Z_G(T)$ . Let K be a fixed compact open subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  and let  $K_T = K_T^m$  be the maximal compact subgroup of  $T(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . The function

$$I(g) = |K_T/T(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap g^{-1}Kg| \to \infty$$

as  $g \to \infty$  in  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)/H(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  (where a basis of neighborhoods of  $\infty$  is given by the complements of compact subsets of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)/H(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ ). Let W be a set of  $g \in G(\mathbb{Q}_p)/H(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  such that I(g) is bounded. The image of W in  $G(\mathbb{Z}_p)\backslash G(\mathbb{Q}_p)/H(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  is finite.

**Proof.** As  $T(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap g^{-1}Kg$  is a compact open subgroup of  $T(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ ,  $T(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap g^{-1}Kg$  is contained in  $K_T$ . For  $g \in G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  and  $h \in H(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  we find that

$$T(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap h^{-1}g^{-1}Kgh = h^{-1}(hT(\mathbb{Q}_p)h^{-1} \cap g^{-1}Kg)h = h^{-1}(T(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap g^{-1}Kg)h = T \cap g^{-1}Kgh$$

as h commutes with T. So I(g) is well defined on  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)/H(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ .

Let  $\mathbf{1}_K$  be the characteristic function of K on  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . Let  $\mu_T$  be the normalized measure on  $K_T$ . Then  $I(g) \to \infty$  if and only if

$$\int_{K_T} \mathbf{1}_K(gtg^{-1}) \ d\mu_T \longrightarrow 0.$$

We just have to prove that for t outside a subset of  $K_T$  of  $\mu_T$ -measure 0:

$$\mathbf{1}_K(gtg^{-1}) \to 0.$$

Let  $T^{reg} \subset T(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  be the set

$$T^{reg} = \{ t \in T(\mathbb{Q}_p) \mid Z_G(t) = Z_G(T) = H \}.$$

For  $t \in T^{reg}$  we have a homeomorphism

$$\pi_t: \ G(\mathbb{Q}_p)/H(\mathbb{Q}_p) \to O(t)$$

$$q \mapsto qtq^{-1}$$

where O(t) denotes the orbit of t under  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . As t is semisimple this orbit is closed and the map  $\pi_t$  is proper. In this way we get that for  $g \to \infty$  $\mathbf{1}_K(gtg^{-1})=0$ . So the following lemma finishes the proof of the proposition.

**Lemma 3.20** The set of  $t \in K_T$  such that  $t \notin T^{reg}$  is of  $\mu_T$ -measure 0.

This last lemma is a consequence of [18], 2.1.11. 

We can now finish the proof of the proposition 3.14. Let  $T_0 \in \mathbb{T}_F$  and  $\Sigma_0$  the  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q})$ -conjugacy class of  $T_0$ . Let  $T_{0,\mathbb{Z}}$  be the Zariski closure of  $T_0$ in  $GL_{n,\mathbb{Z}}$ . By lemma 3.13, we just need to prove that  $\Sigma_0 \cap \mathbb{T}_F$  is contained in a finite union of  $GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ -conjugacy classes. By lemma 3.18, there exists  $C_0 > 0$  such that for all  $T \in \Sigma_0 \cap \mathbb{T}_F$  and all prime numbers  $p > C_0$  there exists  $\alpha_p \in GL_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  such that  $T_{\mathbb{Z}_p} = \alpha_p T_{0\mathbb{Z}_p} \alpha_p^{-1}$ . Let  $g \in GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$  be such that  $T := gT_0g^{-1} \in \mathbb{T}_F \cap \Sigma_0$ . By theorem 2.19

$$|K_{T,p}^m/K_{T,p}| = |K_{T_0,p}^m/T_0(\mathbb{Q}_p) \cap g^{-1}K_pg|$$

is bounded when T varies in  $\Sigma_0 \cap \mathbb{T}_F$ . Using the proposition 3.19, we see that for all prime numbers  $p \leq C_0$  there exists a finite subset  $W_p$  of

$$\mathrm{GL}_{n,\mathbb{Z}_p}\backslash\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)/Z_{\mathrm{GL}_n}(T_0)(\mathbb{Q}_p)$$

such that the image of g in  $\mathrm{GL}_{n,\mathbb{Z}_p}\backslash\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)/Z_{\mathrm{GL}_n}(T_0)(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  is contained in  $W_p$ .

We therefore just need to prove that the set of tori  $T = gT_0g^{-1} \in \Sigma_0 \cap \mathbb{T}_F$  such that the image  $g_p$  in  $W_p$  is fixed for all  $p \leq C_0$  is contained in a finite union of  $GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ -conjugacy class.

If this set is not empty, there exists  $T_1 \in \Sigma_0 \cap \mathbb{T}_F$  such that for all primes p and all T in this set there exists  $\alpha_p \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  such that  $T_{\mathbb{Z}_p} = \alpha_p T_{1\mathbb{Z}_p} \alpha_p^{-1}$ . By the results of Gille and Moret-Bailly ([11] cor. 6.4) the set of tori under consideration is contained in a finite union of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ -conjugacy classes. This finishes the proof of Proposition 3.14.

#### **Proposition 3.21** The set $\mathbb{T}_M$ is a finite union of $\Gamma$ -conjugacy classes.

This proposition finishes the proof of the theorem 3.10: Fix  $T_1, \ldots, T_s$  a system of representatives of the  $\Gamma$ -conjugacy classes in  $\mathbb{T}_M$ . In view of the lemma 3.4, any  $Z \in \Sigma_F$  is a  $T_i$  special subvariety.

**Proof.** Before starting the proof the proposition, we need to define the "type" of a torus. Let S be a finite set of finite places of  $\mathbb{Q}$  and let A be the ring of S-integers. Let  $\overline{A}$  be the integral closure of A inside  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ . Suppose that  $G_A$  is a smooth reductive model of  $G_{\mathbb{Q}}$  over  $\operatorname{Spec}(A)$ .

We recall ([6], Exp. XIV, def. 1.3) that a maximal torus T of  $G_A$  is a torus in  $G_A$  such that for any geometric point  $\overline{s}$  of  $\operatorname{Spec}(A)$ ,  $T_{\overline{s}}$  is a maximal torus of  $G_{A,\overline{s}}$ . For any  $s \in \operatorname{Spec}(A)$  there exists a neighbourhood U of s such that  $G_{|U}$  has a maximal torus ([6], exp. XIV, cor. 3.20). By enlarging S we may and do assume that  $G_A$  has a maximal torus.

Let  $T_A$  be a torus in  $G_A$ . Then  $Z_{G_A}(T_A)$  is a connected reductive subgroup of  $G_A$  such that, for any geometric point  $\overline{s}$  of  $\operatorname{Spec}(A)$   $(Z_{G_A}(T_A))_{\overline{s}}$  is a reductive subgroup of  $(G_A)_{\overline{s}}$  of maximal reductive rank ([7], Exp. XXII, prop. 5.10.3). Moreover  $Z_{G_A}(T_A)$  contains a maximal torus  $T_A^{max}$  of  $G_A$  ([6], Exp. XII, prop. 7.9 (d)). By [7] (Exp. XXII prop 2.2)  $T_A^{max}$  is a split maximal torus of  $G_{\overline{A}}$ . One can describe  $Z_{G_{\overline{A}}}(T_{\overline{A}})$  using roots of  $(G_{\overline{A}}, T_A^{max})$  which are trivial on  $\tilde{T}_{\overline{A}} = Z(Z_{G_{\overline{A}}}(T_{\overline{A}}))^0$  ([7], Exp. XXII, sec. 5.4). Note that  $Z_{G_{\overline{A}}}(T_{\overline{A}})$  is of type (R) in the sense of ([7] Exp. XXII, def. 5.2.1). Then  $Z_{G_{\overline{A}}}(T_{\overline{A}})$  is determined by a subset R' of the set  $R = R(G_{\overline{A}}, T_A^{max})$  of roots of  $(G_{\overline{A}}, T_A^{max})$  ([7], Exp. XXII, sec. 5.4). The possible subsets R' of R occuring as the roots of a subgroup of  $G_{\overline{A}}$  of the form  $Z_{G_{\overline{A}}}(T_{\overline{A}})$  are described in ([7], Exp. XXII, sec. 5.10). See prop 5.10.3, cor. 5.10.5 and prop. 5.10.6 of loc. cit.

For any root data  $R_1 = R(G_{\overline{A}}, T_1^{max})$  and  $R_2 = R(G_{\overline{A}}, T_2^{max})$  there exists a inner automorphism  $\phi$  of  $G_{\overline{A}}$  transforming  $R_1$  into  $R_2$  ([7], Exp. XXIV, lem.

1.5). The subsets of  $R_1$  occurring as root data for the reductive subgroups of type (R) are sent by  $\phi$  on the corresponding subsets of  $R_2$ . Hence, there exist at most finitely many  $G(\overline{A})$ -conjugacy classes of subgroups of this form. If  $T_A$  is a A-torus in  $G_A$  the type of  $T_A$  is the  $G(\overline{A})$ -conjugacy class of  $Z_{G_{\overline{A}}}(T_{\overline{A}})$  (compare with  $([7], \exp. XXII \sec. 2)$ ).

We only need to prove the proposition 3.21 for a subset  $\mathbb{T}'_M$  of  $\mathbb{T}_M$  such that the tori in  $\mathbb{T}'_M$  belong to a fixed  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ -conjugacy class of a torus  $T_0 \in \mathbb{T}'_F$ .

Assume that S contains the primes p such that either  $T_{0\mathbb{Z}_p}$  is not a torus or the Zariski-closure of G in  $GL_{n,\mathbb{Z}_p}$  is not reductive and smooth. The Zariski closures  $G_A$  of G and  $T_{0,A}$  of  $T_0$  in  $GL_{n,A}$  are smooth. By enlarging S we may and do assume that  $G_A$  has a maximal torus. As we work in a fixed  $GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ -conjugacy class all the tori in  $\mathbb{T}'_F$  have a smooth Zariski closure in  $GL_{n,A}$ . We therefore may assume that all the tori in  $\mathbb{T}'_M$  have the same type. Let  $\tilde{T}_0$  be the maximal torus of  $Z(Z_G(T_0))$ , then  $Z_G(T_0) = Z_G(\tilde{T}_0)$  also has a smooth Zariski-closure in  $GL_{n,A}$ .

If  $T \in \mathbb{T}_F'$ , we write  $\tilde{T}$  for the maximal torus of  $Z(Z_G(T))$ . Then  $\tilde{T}_A$  and  $\tilde{T}_{0,A}$  are some A-subtori of  $G_A$  locally conjugate in the fppf topology. The corollary 6.4 of the paper by Gille and Moret-Bailly [11] tells us that there are at most finitely many G(A)-conjugacy-classes of such subtori. We may therefore assume that for any  $T \in \mathbb{T}_F'$  the associated A-torus  $\tilde{T}_A$  is conjugate to  $\tilde{T}_{0,A}$  by an element of G(A).

Let  $\alpha \in G(A)$  such that  $\tilde{T}_A = \alpha \tilde{T}_{0,A} \alpha^{-1}$ . Then

$$Z_{G_A}(\tilde{T}_A) = Z_{G_A}(T_A) = \alpha Z_{G_A}(\tilde{T}_{0,A})\alpha^{-1}.$$

Over  $\mathbb{Q}$  we get  $Z_G(T) = \alpha Z_G(T_0)\alpha^{-1}$ . Let L and  $L_0$  be the reductive subgroups of  $Z_G(T)$  and  $Z_G(T_0)$  obtained by removing the  $\mathbb{R}$ -compact  $\mathbb{Q}$ -factors of  $Z_G(T)$  and  $Z_G(T_0)$  as described before the lemma 3.6. Let  $(L, X_L)$  and  $(L_0, X_{L_0})$  be the associated Shimura data (see 3.6). Using lemma 3.7 we may assume that for any  $T \in \mathbb{T}'_M$ ,  $\alpha$  induces an isomorphism of Shimura data between  $(L_0, X_{L_0})$  and  $(L, X_L)$ . Therefore the generic Mumford-Tate group  $\mathrm{MT}(X_L)$  of  $X_L$  equals  $\alpha MT(X_{L_0})\alpha^{-1}$ . As a consequence we have

$$T = Z(MT(X_L)) = \alpha T_0 \alpha^{-1}.$$

The proposition 3.19 of Clozel shows that for all primes  $p \in \mathcal{S}$  the image  $\alpha_p$  of  $\alpha$  in  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)/Z_G(T_0)(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  is contained in a finite union of  $G(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ -orbits.

We may therefore assume that for all  $p \in \mathcal{S}$  any torus T in  $\mathbb{T}'_M$  is conjugate to  $T_0$  by an element of  $G(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . As T and  $T_0$  are also conjugate by an element of  $G(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  for all  $p \notin \mathcal{S}$  the corollary 6.4 of the paper by Gille and Moret-Bailly [11] tells us that T is contained in a finite union of  $G(\mathbb{Z})$ -orbits. As  $\Gamma$  is of finite index in  $G(\mathbb{Z})$ , T is contained in a finite union of  $\Gamma$ -orbits.

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